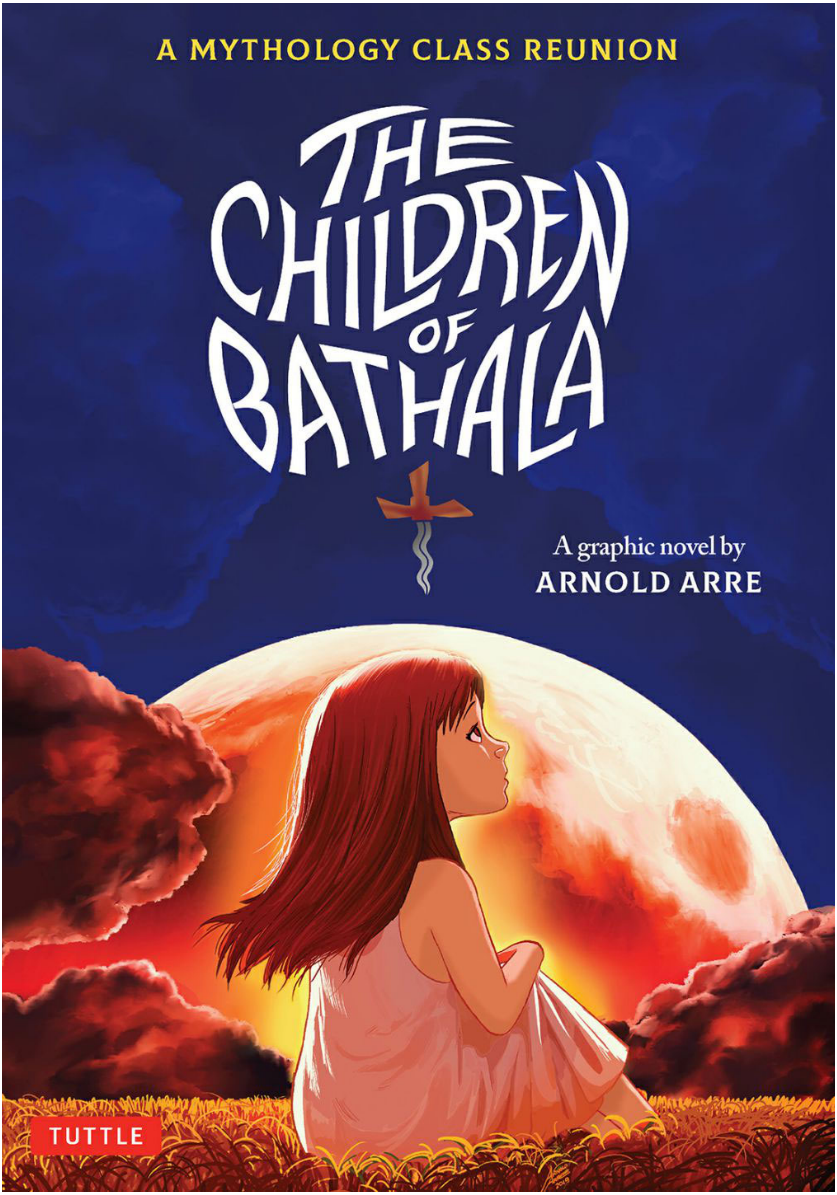


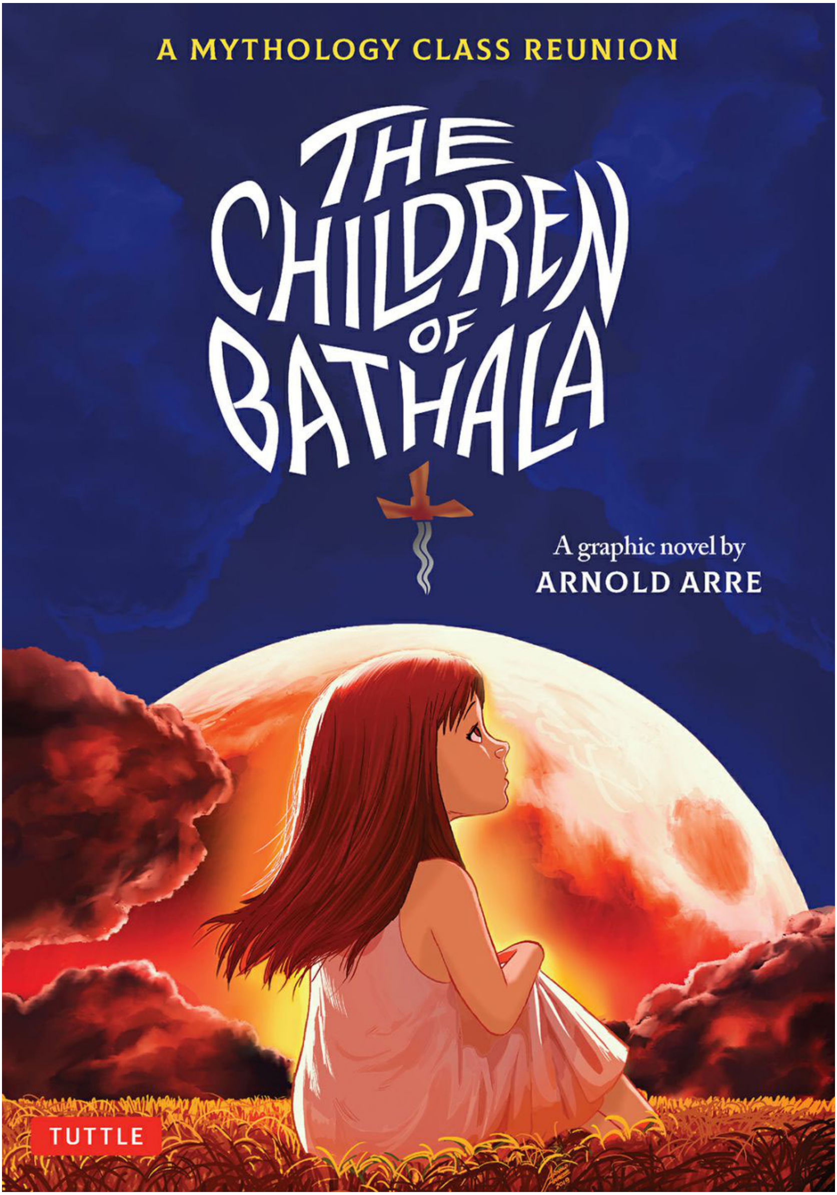
A MYTHOLOGY CLASS REUNION

# THE CHILDREN OF BATHALA

A graphic novel by

**ARNOLD ARRE**

TUTTLE



A MYTHOLOGY CLASS REUNION

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TUTTLE Publishing

Tokyo | Rutland, Vermont | Singapore

## Welcome to the Reunion!

When Arnold told me he was making a sequel to *The Mythology Class* that would be set twenty years after the events of the story and that would be taking place in 2019, my mind was kinda blown. That meant that these characters had all aged along with me, in almost real time. I was beyond curious to see what had happened to this wild group of characters that had achieved their fantasy happy ending at the end of *The Mythology Class*. Well, one thing I should have realized is that by continuing the story, that happy ending was not truly an ending. It was simply a happy ending to that era of their lives. This new adventure, *The Children of Bathala*, reminds us that life goes on, life changes, and the "ever afters" aren't always as happy as we would have hoped.

The challenge of any sequel is that it needs to achieve this precarious balancing act. It needs to fulfill the expectations of the fans of the original, to feel familiar enough that it has the same appeal that made these people fans in the first place. Yet at the same time, it needs to do something unexpected and something new, otherwise it just seems like a rehash or an unnecessary repeat. *The Mythology Class* also basically spawned its own genre, inspiring numerous other comics to mine Philippine mythology. So a sequel to such a seminal work needs to also do something different from all the works that grew out of the foundation it created.

The way this particular sequel takes on that challenge is to deconstruct the very genre it created. Just as Arnold was the one who ushered in this new wave of Philippine mythology comics, it's only fitting that he is reinventing once again. Yes, the familiar elements we loved from the original are still here. There are engkantos. Many of the characters we love are still around. The sense of wonder and world-building are still strong elements in this story.

But in this continuation of the story, the focus is on the characters and how the exciting and magical events of their youth affected them. It definitely changed their lives, but with 20 years of hindsight, they start to wonder if it was for the better. This book seems like attending a 20th year class reunion and we see how old schoolmates have changed over the years. Some have fared better than others. Some stayed close while others drifted away. And the crazy adventures you all reveled in years ago now have different meanings for different people. For some, they serve as nostalgia fuel, making them wish they could go back to those good old days. For others, they are filled with regret, as the price paid for participating took too high a toll. Add in a newer and younger generation of characters, and they have their own perspective on those old adventures, changing what it means even for those who were there for them. Some say to forget. Some say to always remember. Some say learn from it and never let it die. And as threats from that magical realm start to reappear, it forces all these characters to re-examine the views and beliefs that have cemented themselves in their hearts over the past two decades.

Like these beloved characters, I now look back at the adventures and excitement of my youth and yearn for some of them, regret others, and struggle to find what they are supposed to mean to me today; all this during a time in our country when evils and demons we thought were defeated decades ago start to slowly reappear, only in newer and more subtle and insidious forms. While we aren't as young, hopeful, or energetic as we once were, we still need to figure out how to battle these threats. Just as *The Mythology Class* came along at a time when I was excited about all the possibilities of being part of the Philippine comics community, this sequel comes at a time when I want to believe that magic can still come into our lives; maybe not the same wild and intoxicating magic as before, but a newer magic tempered by pain, experience, and maturity.

But it's not the same type of story as *The Mythology Class*. That was about a class. It was about college and discovering that a bigger world is out there after you leave school. *The Children of Bathala* to me feels like a story about mid-life crisis. The bigger world out there will not always be filled with magical excitement. The times have changed, we've changed, and the threats have changed. Can we still cling to the magic we depended on before, or do we need to let all that go and grow up? Can we tell the next generation to simply follow in our footsteps and trust in what we've learned from experience, or is there some new perspective on things we all need to discover to do things in a better way?

I don't have the answers, just as the characters don't either. Yet we are all facing new challenges and questions about ourselves and our society together.

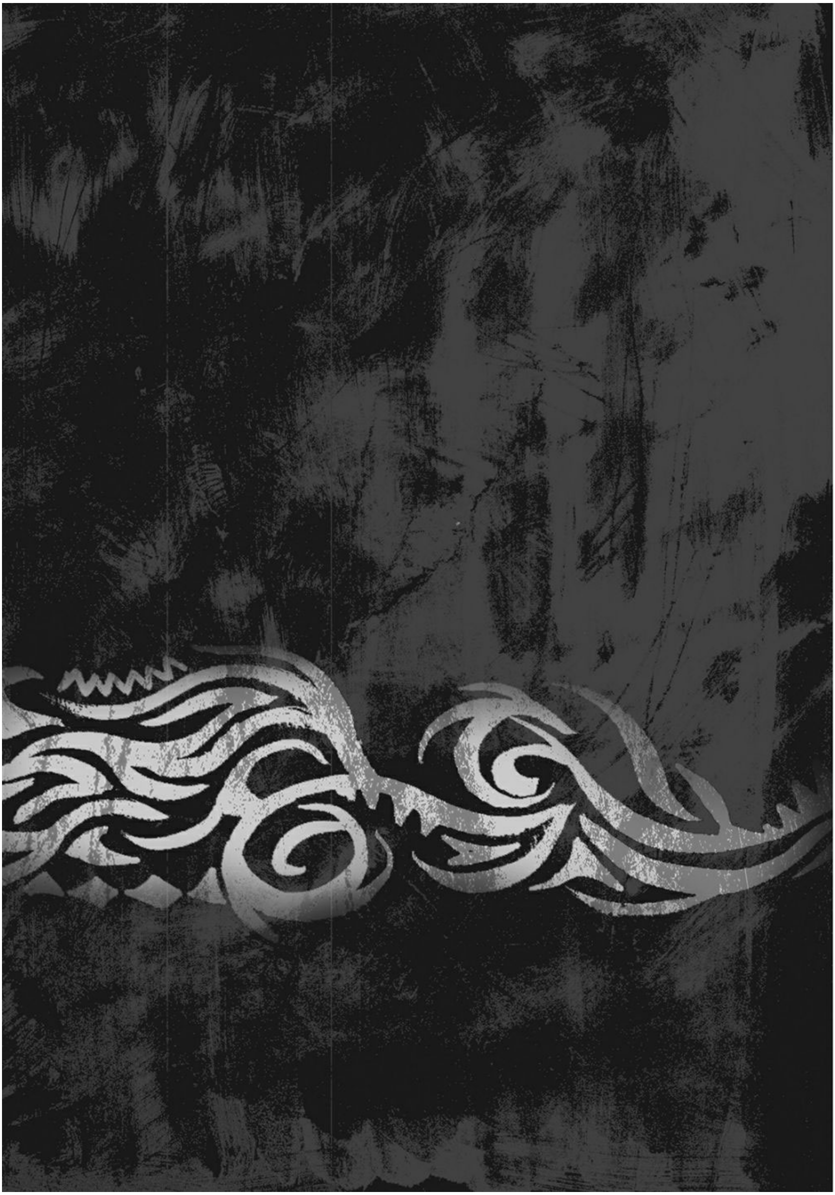
Welcome back, old friends. I'm excited to see where you'll lead us this time.

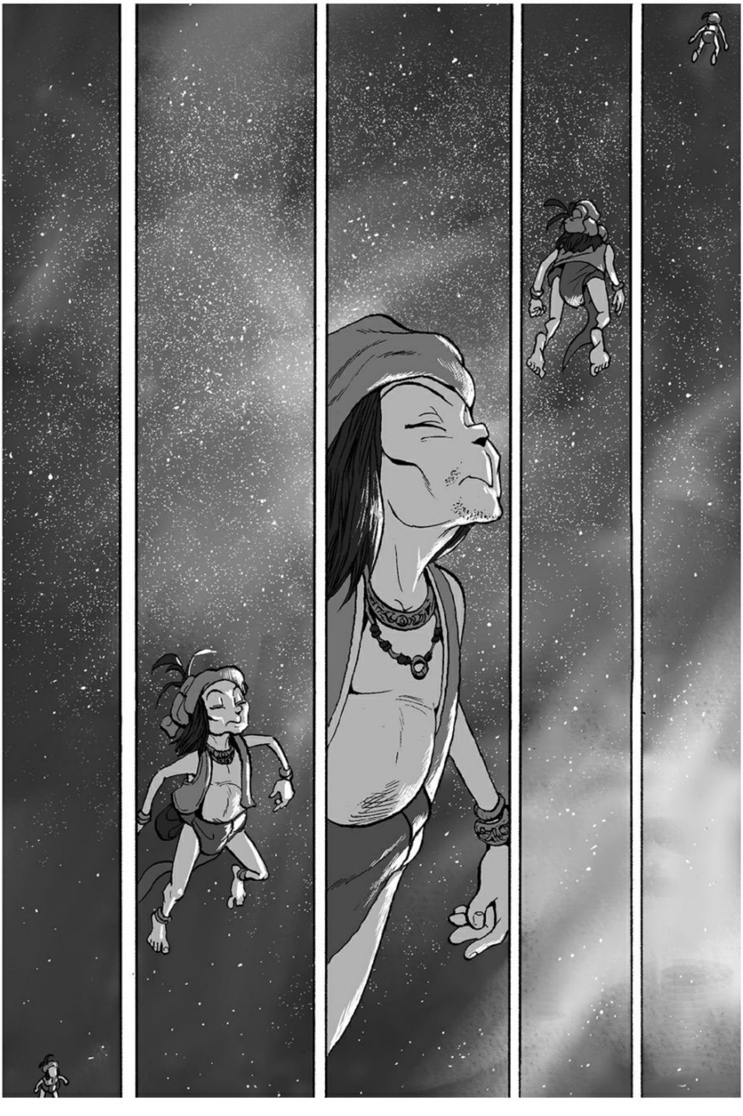
**—Jamie Bautista**
Story Consultant

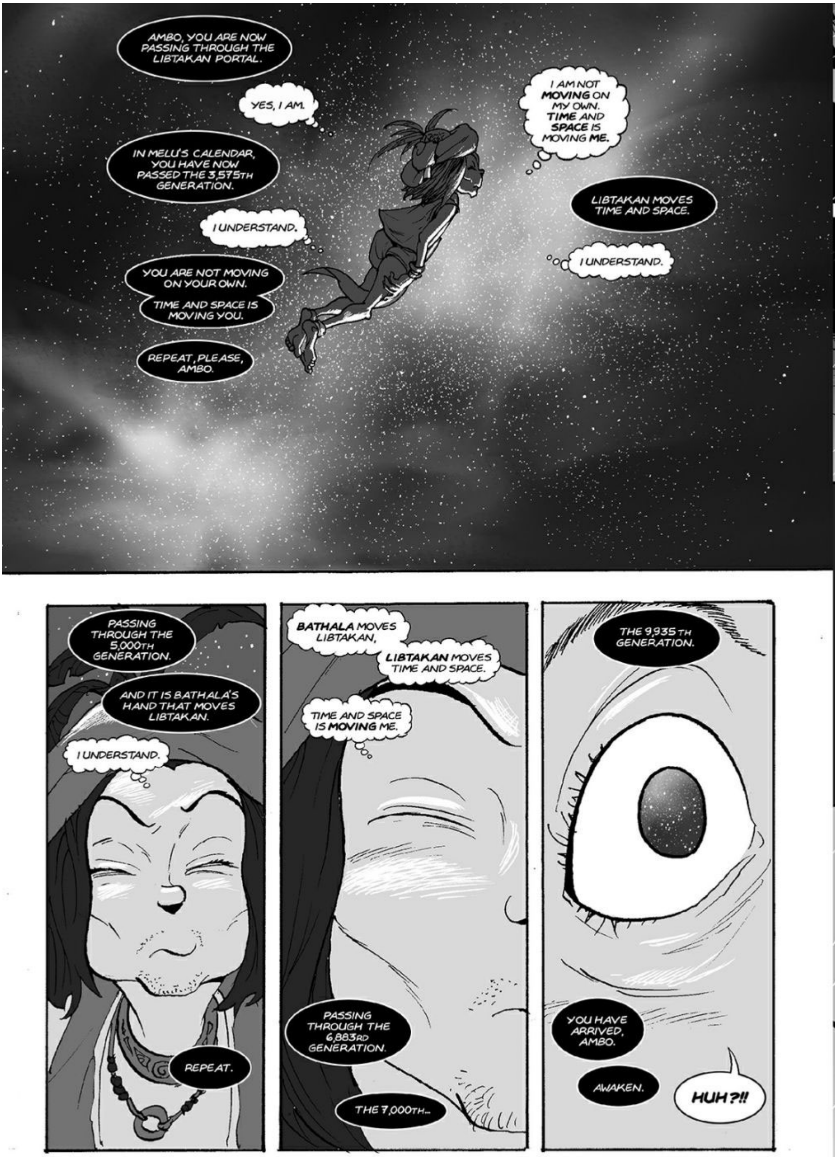
# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

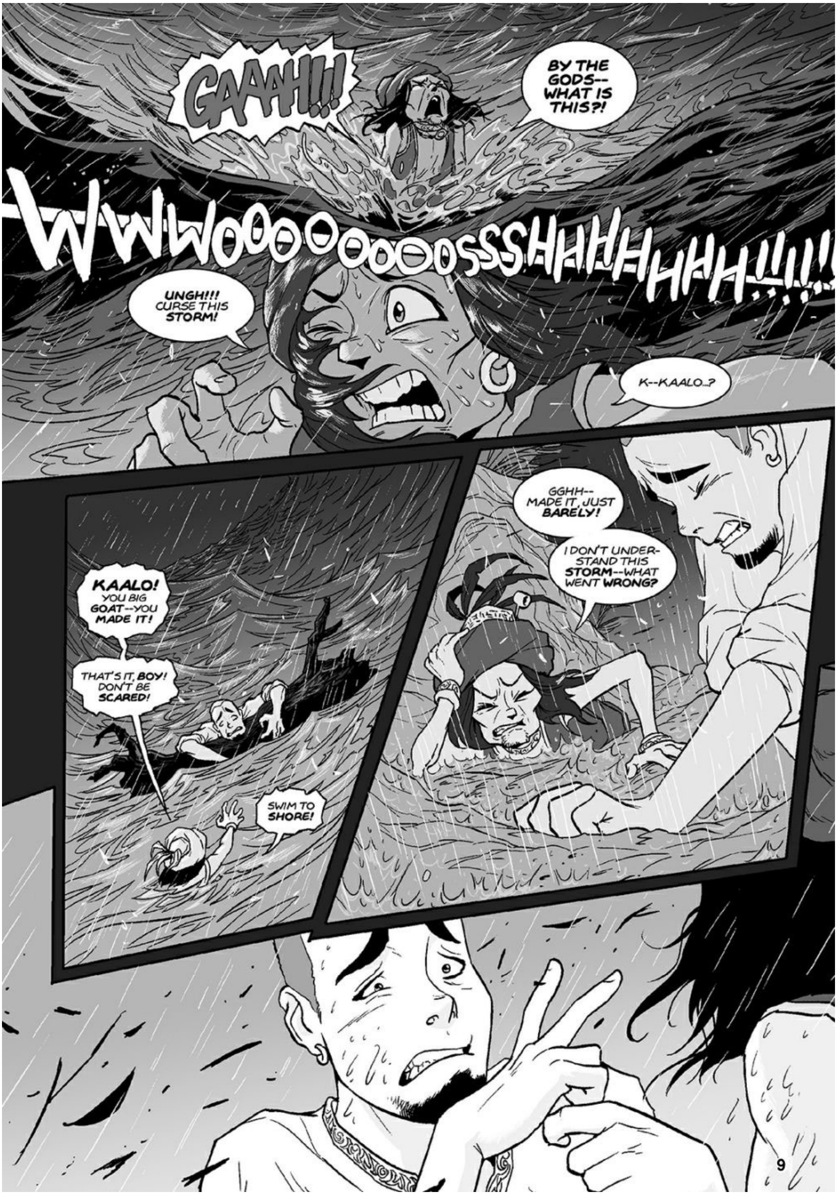
To Jamie, Iyay, and Nautilus Comics for always believing in me and for bringing The Mythology Class back to the world. For the care and joy of family and friends: Cyn, Alvin, Gladys, Luke, Lenn, Calvin, Inches, Mom and Dad, Mama and Papa, Buddy and Earnest Zabala, Quark and Bianca Henares, Marie and Jason McLagan, Jerrold Tarog, Eduardo Rocha, Dan Villegas, Giancarlo and Niña Herman, Lizza Gutierrez, Dulzzi Gutierrez, Abe Medinilla, Chris Costello, Sherry Baet Zamar, Paolo Herras, Jill Ledesma, Bia Macasaet, and to all of you who have supported my works throughout the years, my sincerest thank you.

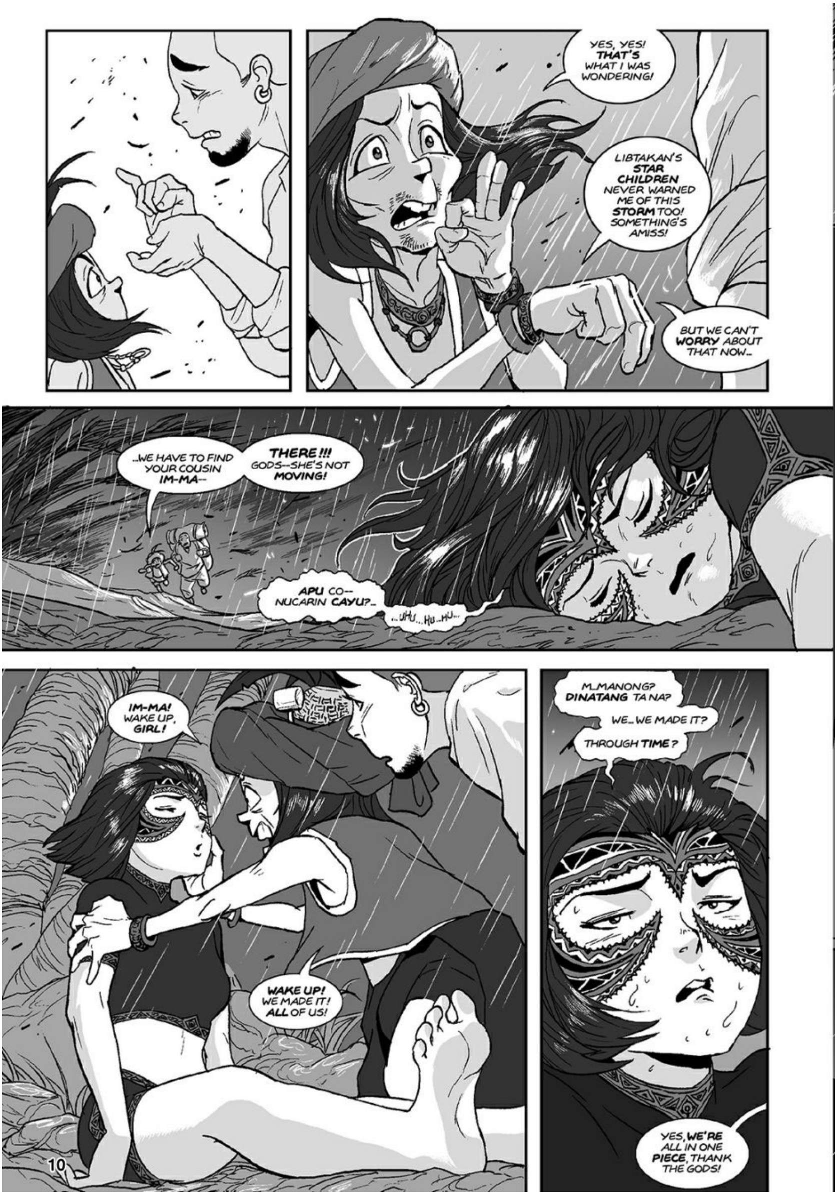
*To old friends*
*who breathe life*
*into memories.*

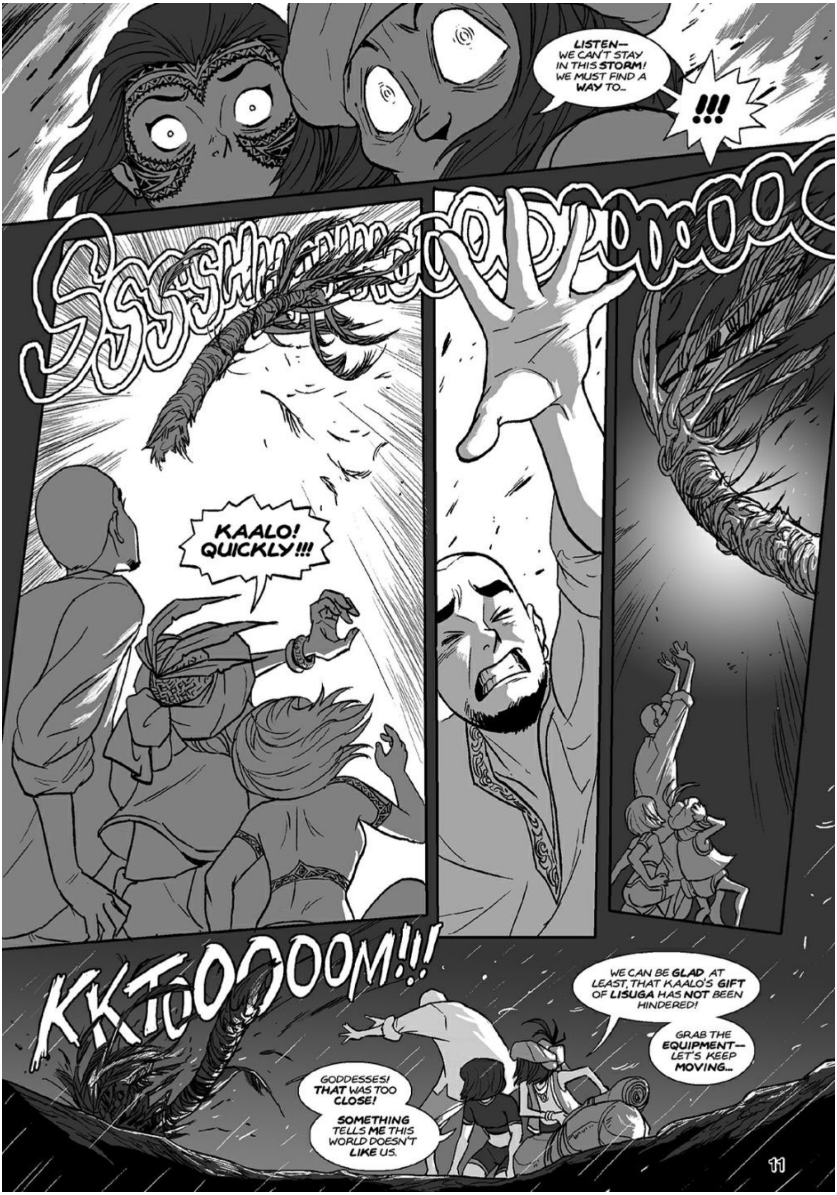


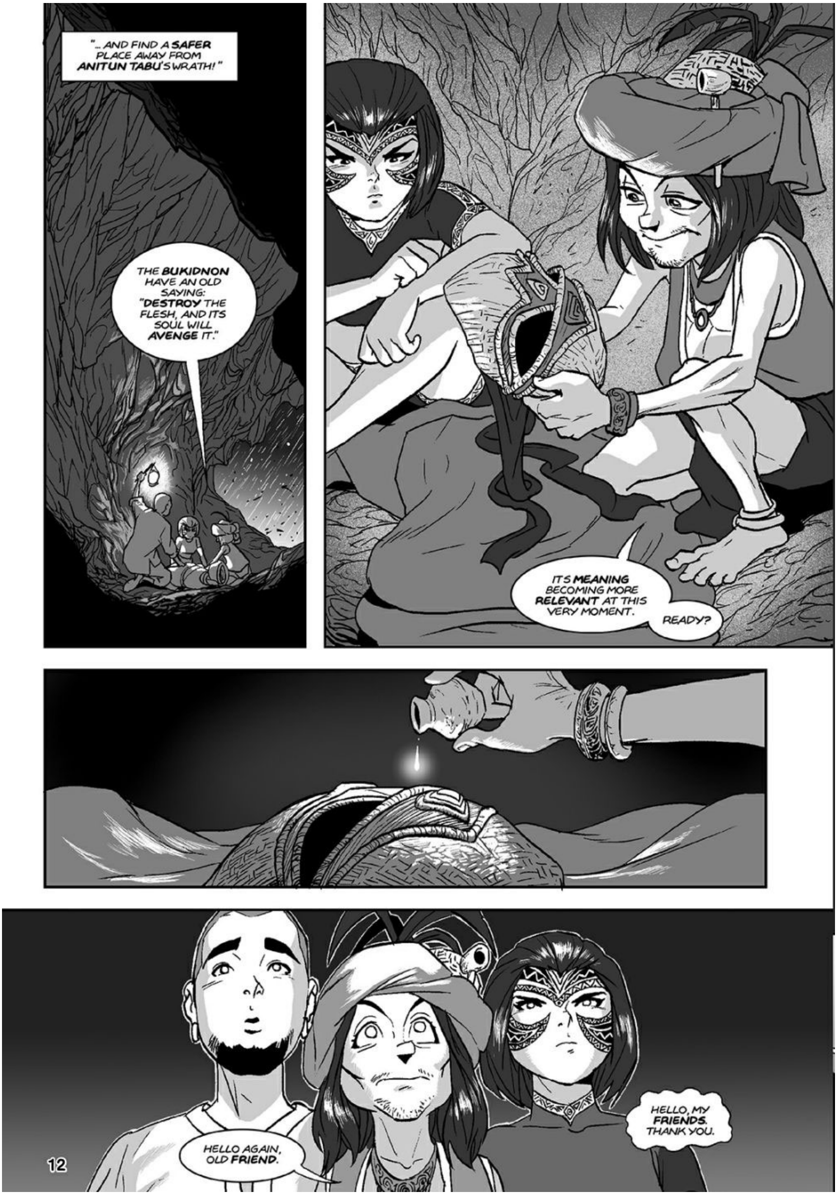


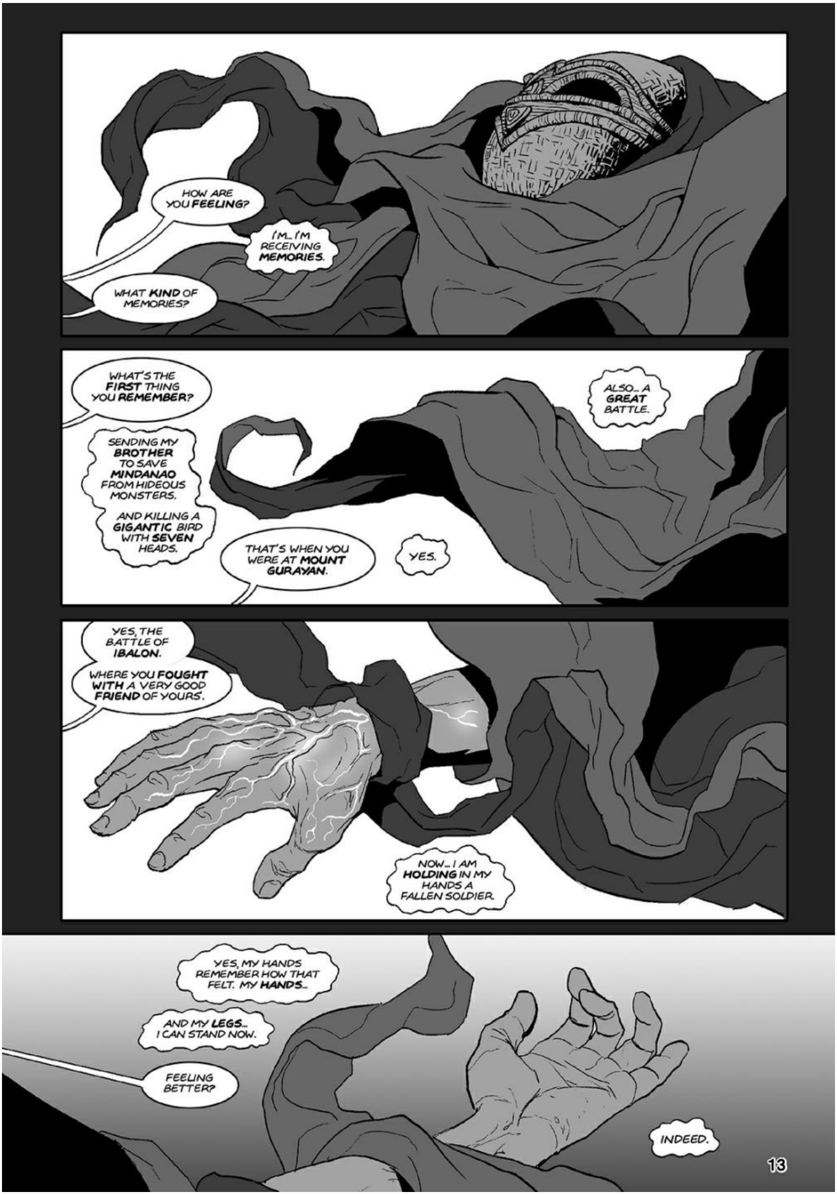

AMBO, YOU ARE NOW PASSING THROUGH THE LIBTAKAN PORTAL.
YES, I AM.
IN MELU'S CALENDAR, YOU HAVE NOW PASSED THE 3,575TH GENERATION.
I UNDERSTAND.
YOU ARE NOT MOVING ON YOUR OWN.
TIME AND SPACE IS MOVING YOU.
REPEAT, PLEASE, AMBO.
I AM NOT **MOVING** ON MY OWN. **TIME** AND **SPACE** IS MOVING **ME.**
LIBTAKAN MOVES TIME AND SPACE.
I UNDERSTAND.
PASSING THROUGH THE 5,000TH GENERATION.
AND IT IS BATHALA'S HAND THAT MOVES LIBTAKAN.
I UNDERSTAND.
REPEAT.
**BATHALA** MOVES LIBTAKAN,
**LIBTAKAN** MOVES TIME AND SPACE.
TIME AND SPACE IS **MOVING** ME.
PASSING THROUGH THE 6,883RD GENERATION.
THE 7,000TH...
THE 9,935TH GENERATION.
YOU HAVE ARRIVED, AMBO.
AWAKEN.
HUH?!!

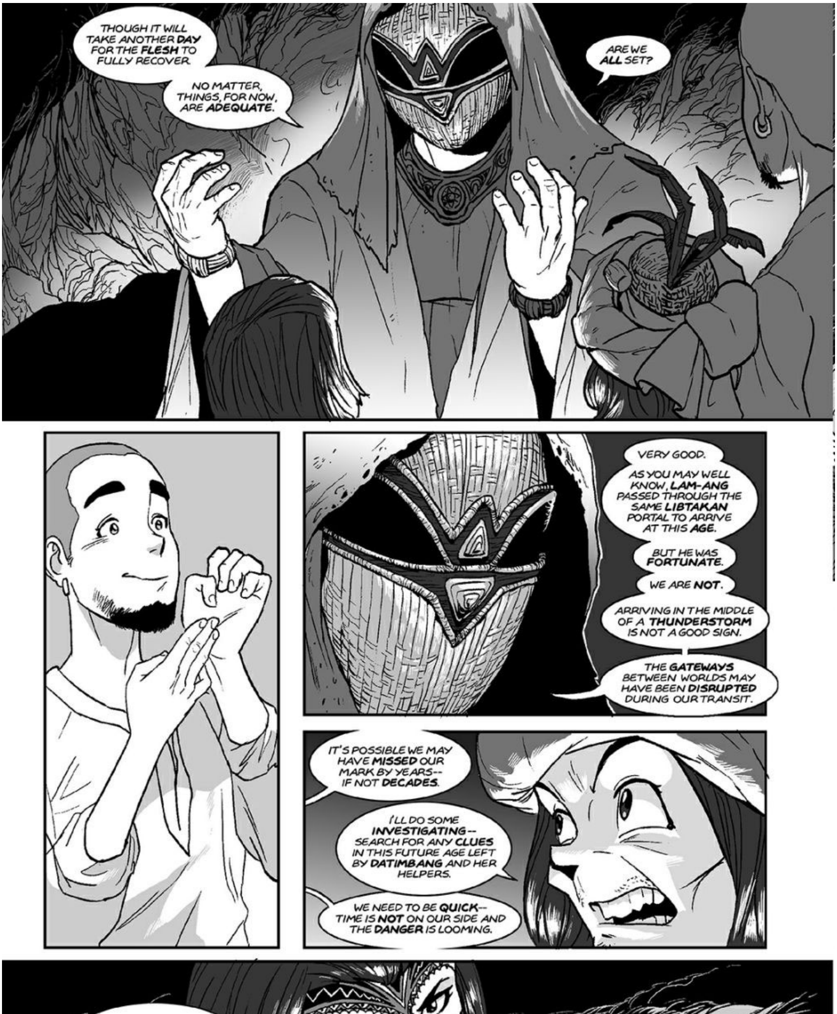

GAAAH!!!
BY THE GODS-- WHAT IS THIS?!
WWWOOOOOOOOOSSSHHHHHHH!!!!!!
UNGH!!! CURSE THIS STORM!
K--KAALO..?
KAALO! YOU BIG GOAT--YOU MADE IT!
THAT'S IT, BOY! DON'T BE SCARED!
SWIM TO SHORE!
GGHH-- MADE IT, JUST BARELY!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND THIS STORM--WHAT WENT WRONG?

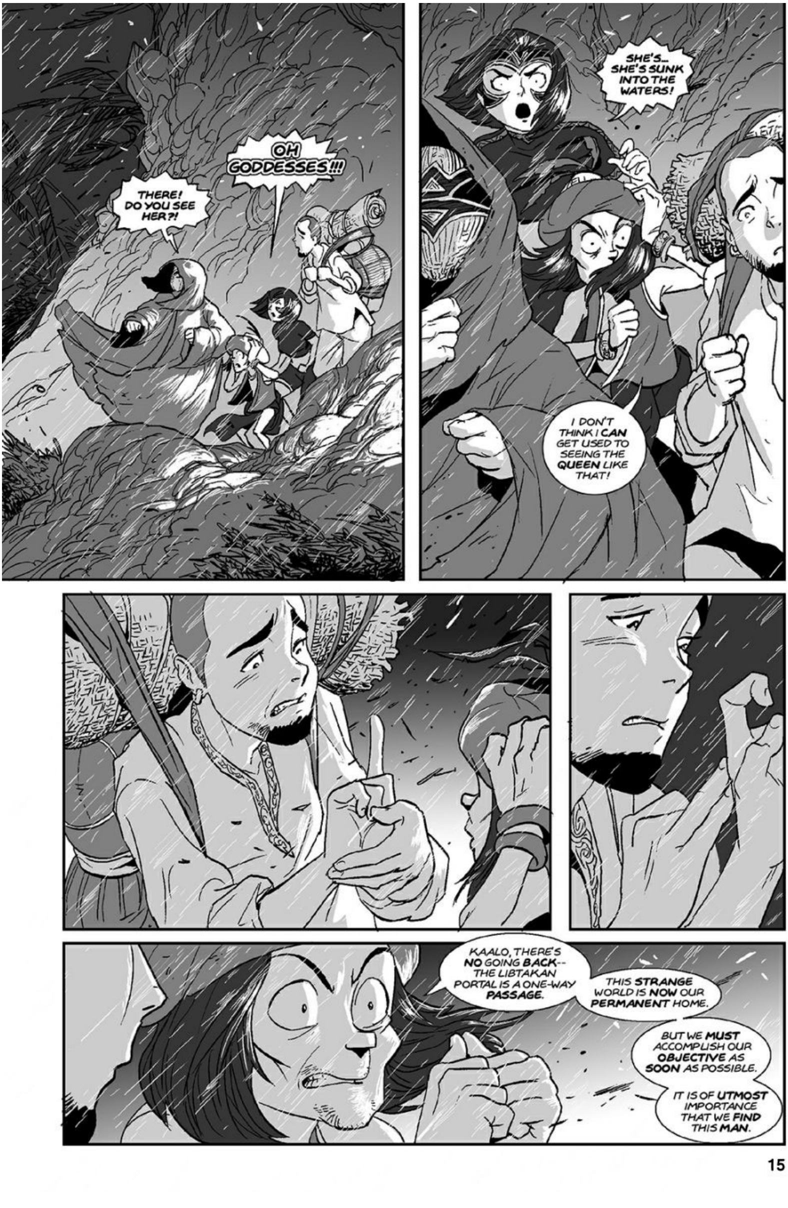

YES, YES! **THAT'S** WHAT I WAS WONDERING!
LIBTAKAN'S **STAR CHILDREN** NEVER WARNED ME OF THIS **STORM** TOO! SOMETHING'S AMISS!
BUT WE CAN'T **WORRY** ABOUT THAT NOW..
..WE HAVE TO FIND YOUR COUSIN **IM-MA**--
**THERE!!!** GODS--SHE'S NOT **MOVING!**
**APU** CO--NUCARIN **CAYU?**..
...UHU...HU...HU...
**IM-MA!** WAKE UP, **GIRL!**
**WAKE UP!** WE MADE IT! **ALL** OF US!
M..MANONG? **DINATANG** TA NA?
WE... WE MADE IT?
THROUGH **TIME**?
YES, **WE'RE** ALL IN ONE **PIECE**, THANK THE GODS!

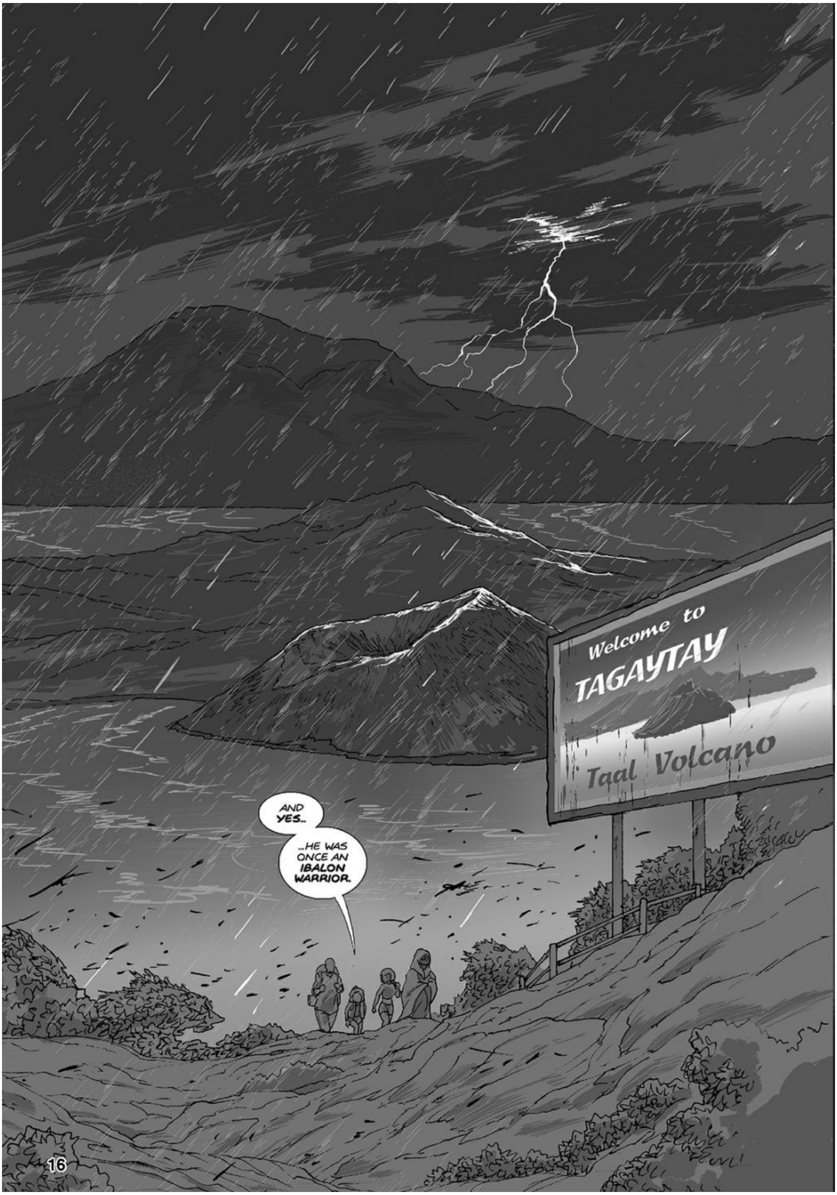

LISTEN— WE CAN'T STAY IN THIS STORM! WE MUST FIND A WAY TO...
!!!
SSSSCHWOOOOOOOOOO
KAALO! QUICKLY!!!
KKTOOOOOM!!!
WE CAN BE GLAD AT LEAST, THAT KAALO'S GIFT OF LISUGA HAS NOT BEEN HINDERED!
GRAB THE EQUIPMENT— LET'S KEEP MOVING...
GODDESSES! THAT WAS TOO CLOSE!
SOMETHING TELLS ME THIS WORLD DOESN'T LIKE US.


"... AND FIND A **SAFER** PLACE AWAY FROM **ANITUN TABU**'S WRATH!"
THE **BUKIDNON** HAVE AN OLD SAYING: "**DESTROY** THE FLESH, AND ITS SOUL WILL **AVENGE** IT."
ITS **MEANING** BECOMING MORE **RELEVANT** AT THIS VERY MOMENT.
READY?
HELLO AGAIN, OLD **FRIEND**.
HELLO, MY **FRIENDS**. THANK YOU.

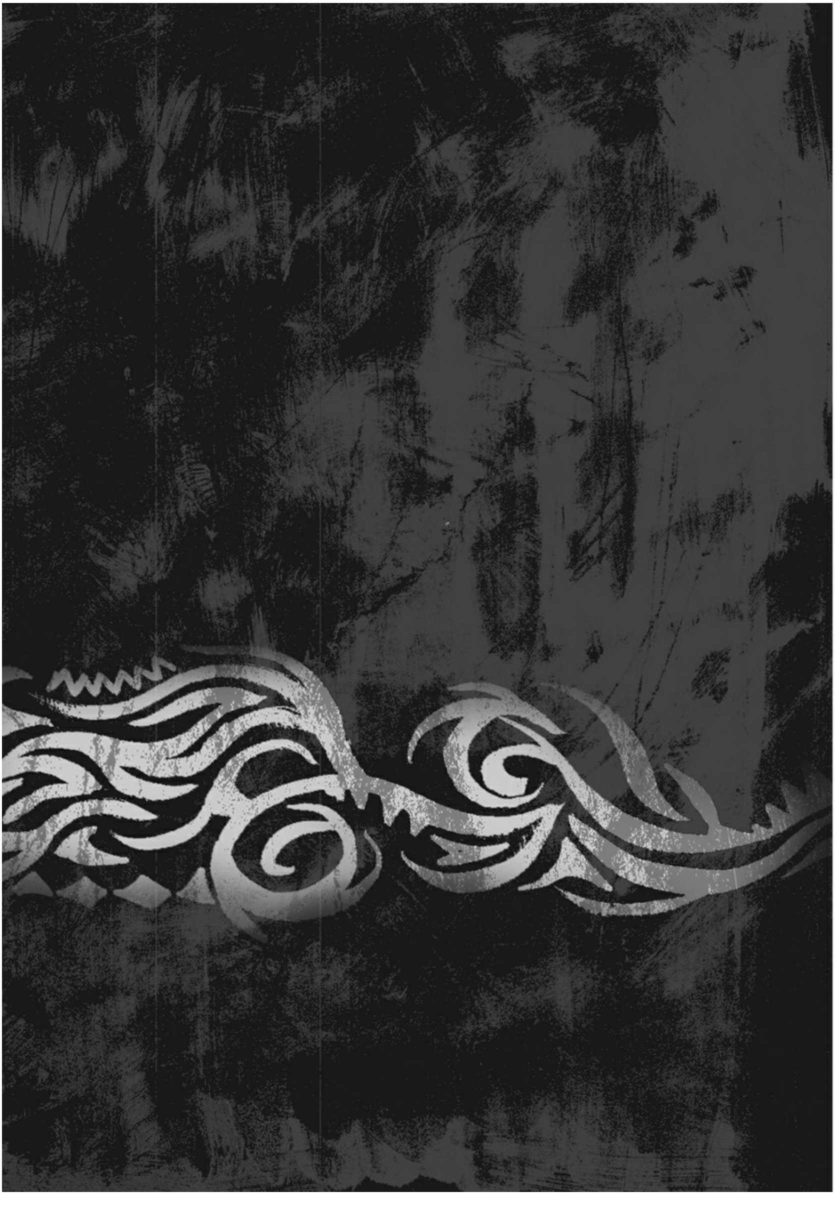

HOW ARE YOU **FEELING**?
I'M... I'M RECEIVING **MEMORIES**.
WHAT **KIND** OF MEMORIES?
WHAT'S THE **FIRST** THING YOU **REMEMBER**?
SENDING MY **BROTHER** TO SAVE **MINDANAO** FROM HIDEOUS MONSTERS.
AND KILLING A **GIGANTIC** BIRD WITH **SEVEN** HEADS.
ALSO... A **GREAT** BATTLE.
THAT'S WHEN YOU WERE AT **MOUNT GURAYAN**.
YES.
YES, THE BATTLE OF **IBALON**.
WHERE YOU **FOUGHT WITH** A VERY GOOD **FRIEND** OF YOURS.
NOW... I AM **HOLDING** IN MY HANDS A FALLEN SOLDIER.
YES, MY HANDS REMEMBER HOW THAT FELT. MY **HANDS**...
AND MY **LEGS**... I CAN STAND NOW.
FEELING BETTER?
INDEED.


THOUGH IT WILL TAKE ANOTHER DAY FOR THE FLESH TO FULLY RECOVER.
NO MATTER, THINGS, FOR NOW, ARE ADEQUATE.
ARE WE ALL SET?
VERY GOOD.
AS YOU MAY WELL KNOW, LAM-ANG PASSED THROUGH THE SAME LIBTAKAN PORTAL TO ARRIVE AT THIS AGE.
BUT HE WAS FORTUNATE.
WE ARE NOT.
ARRIVING IN THE MIDDLE OF A THUNDERSTORM IS NOT A GOOD SIGN.
THE GATEWAYS BETWEEN WORLDS MAY HAVE BEEN DISRUPTED DURING OUR TRANSIT.
IT'S POSSIBLE WE MAY HAVE MISSED OUR MARK BY YEARS-- IF NOT DECADES.
I'LL DO SOME INVESTIGATING-- SEARCH FOR ANY CLUES IN THIS FUTURE AGE LEFT BY DATIMBANG AND HER HELPERS.
WE NEED TO BE QUICK-- TIME IS NOT ON OUR SIDE AND THE DANGER IS LOOMING.
BUT HOW CAN WE BE SURE THAT THIS IS THAT FUTURE AGE?
ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT, IM-MA..


THERE! DO YOU SEE HER?!
OH GODDESSES!!!
SHE'S... SHE'S SUNK INTO THE WATERS!
I DON'T THINK I **CAN** GET USED TO SEEING THE **QUEEN** LIKE THAT!
KAALO, THERE'S **NO** GOING **BACK**-- THE LIBTAKAN PORTAL IS A ONE-WAY **PASSAGE**.
THIS **STRANGE** WORLD IS **NOW** OUR **PERMANENT** HOME.
BUT WE **MUST** ACCOMPLISH OUR **OBJECTIVE** AS **SOON** AS POSSIBLE.
IT IS OF **UTMOST** IMPORTANCE THAT WE **FIND** THIS **MAN**.

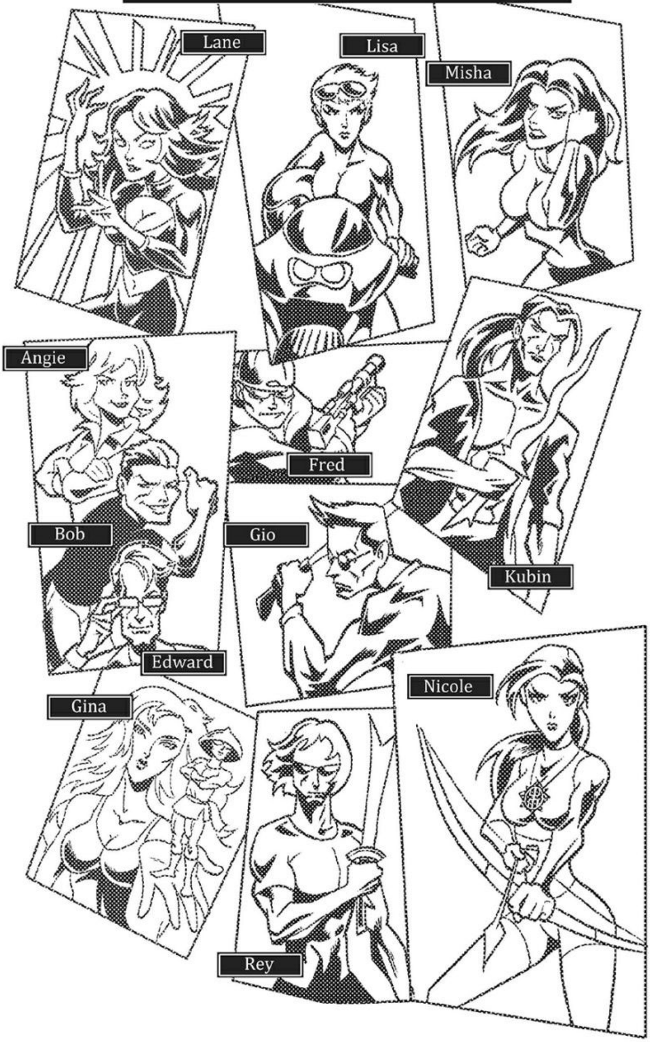

Welcome to
TAGAYTAY
Taal Volcano
AND YES...
...HE WAS ONCE AN IBALON WARRIOR.

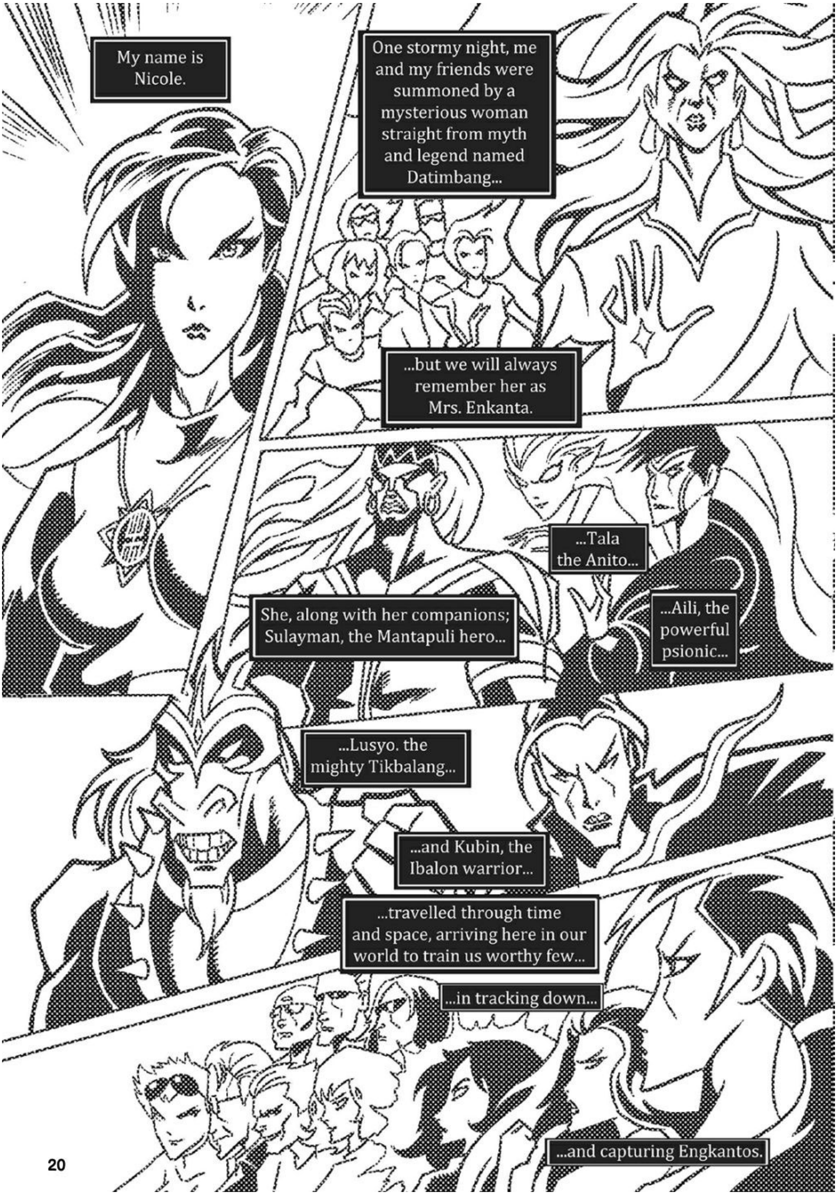
# 2

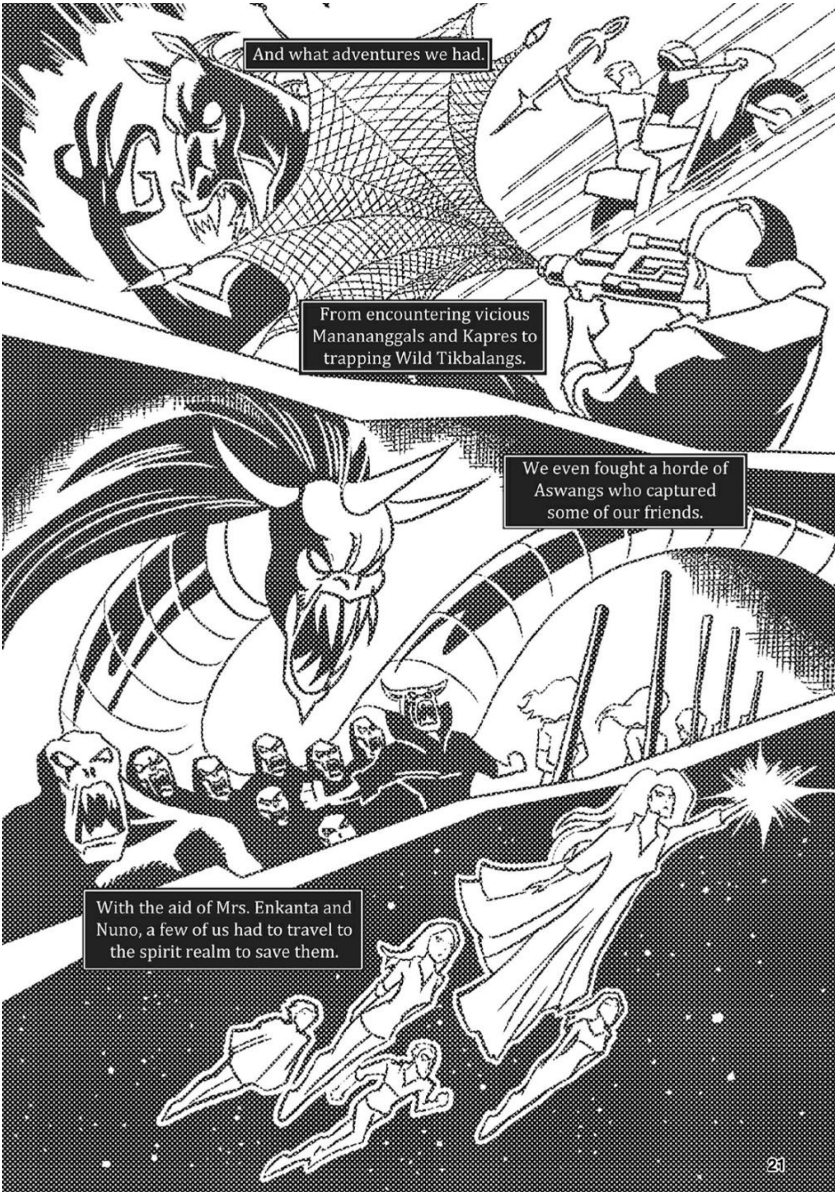


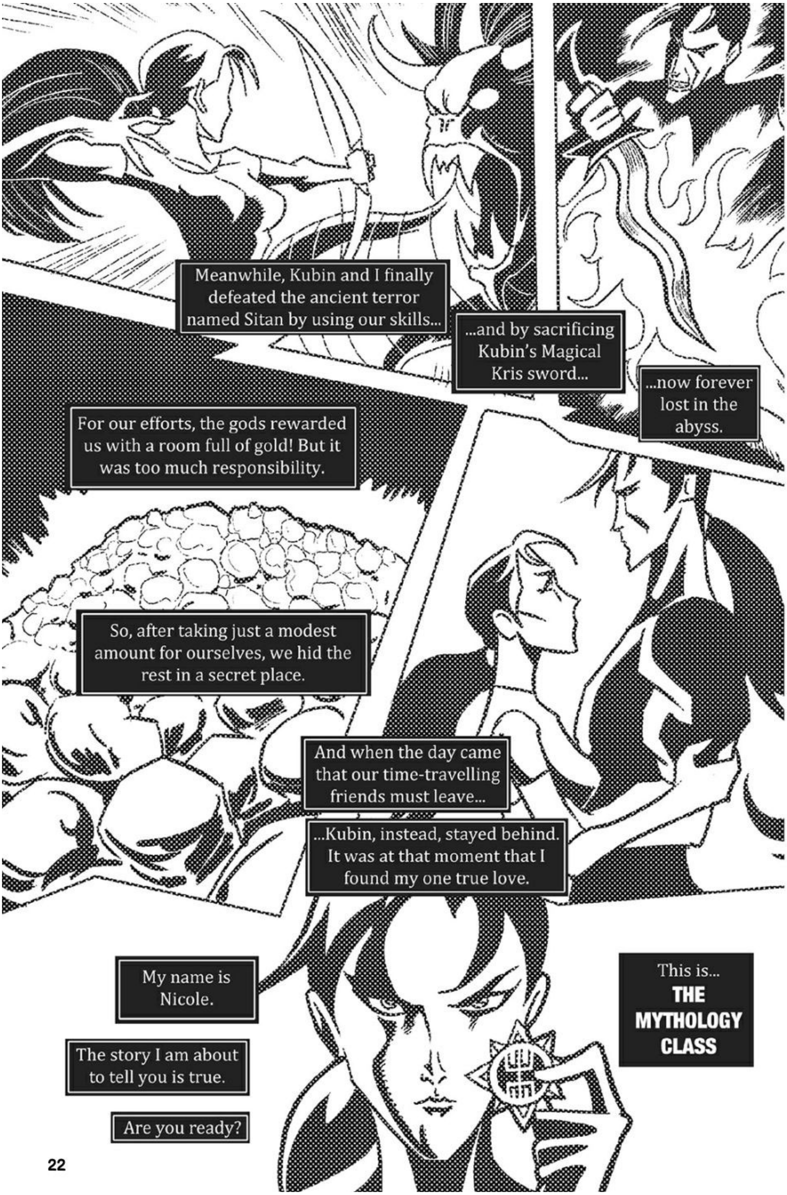
The Mythology Class

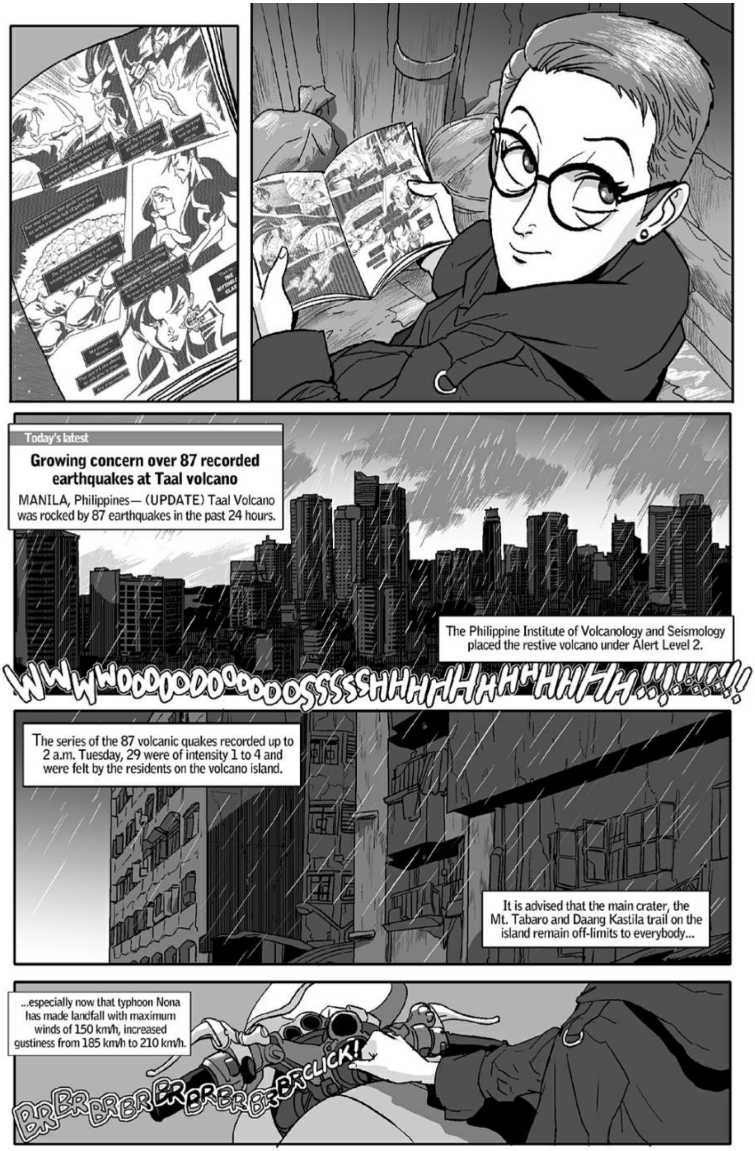
# CHAPTER 1

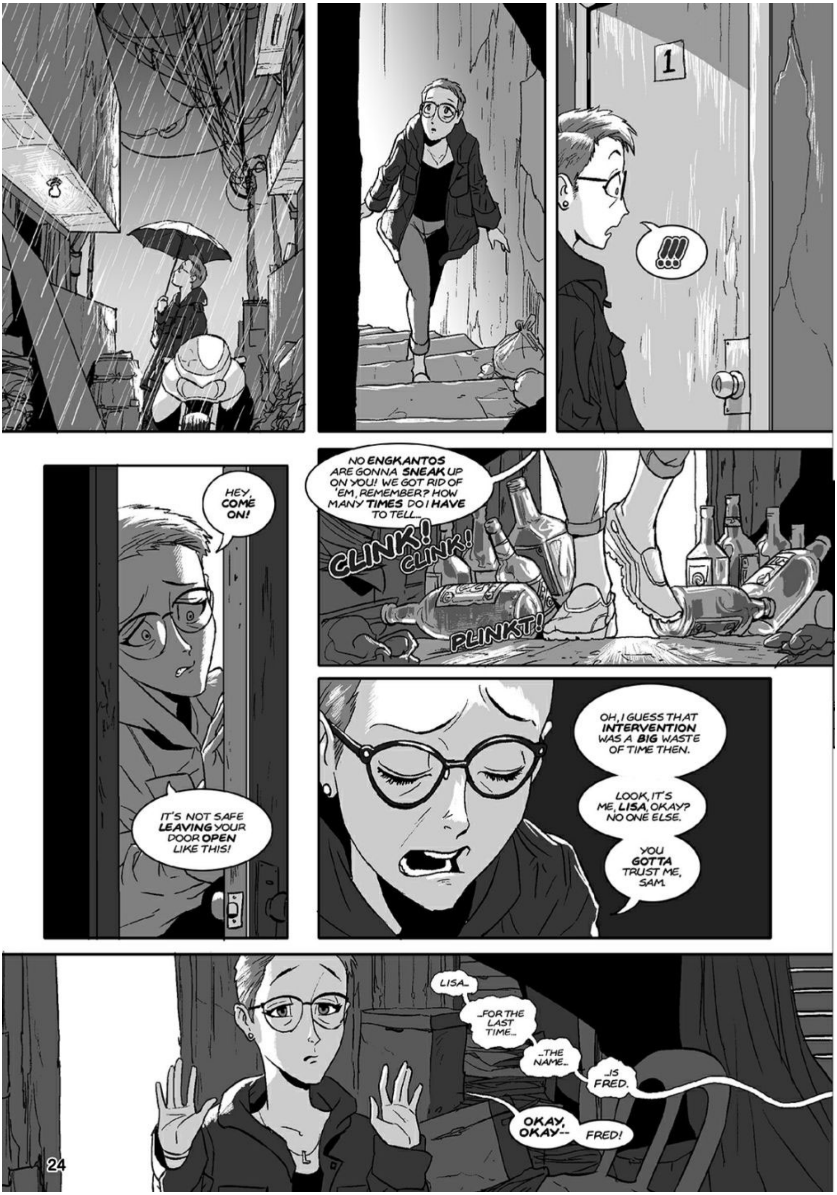

Lane
Lisa
Misha
Angie
Fred
Bob
Gio
Kubin
Edward
Gina
Nicole
Rey

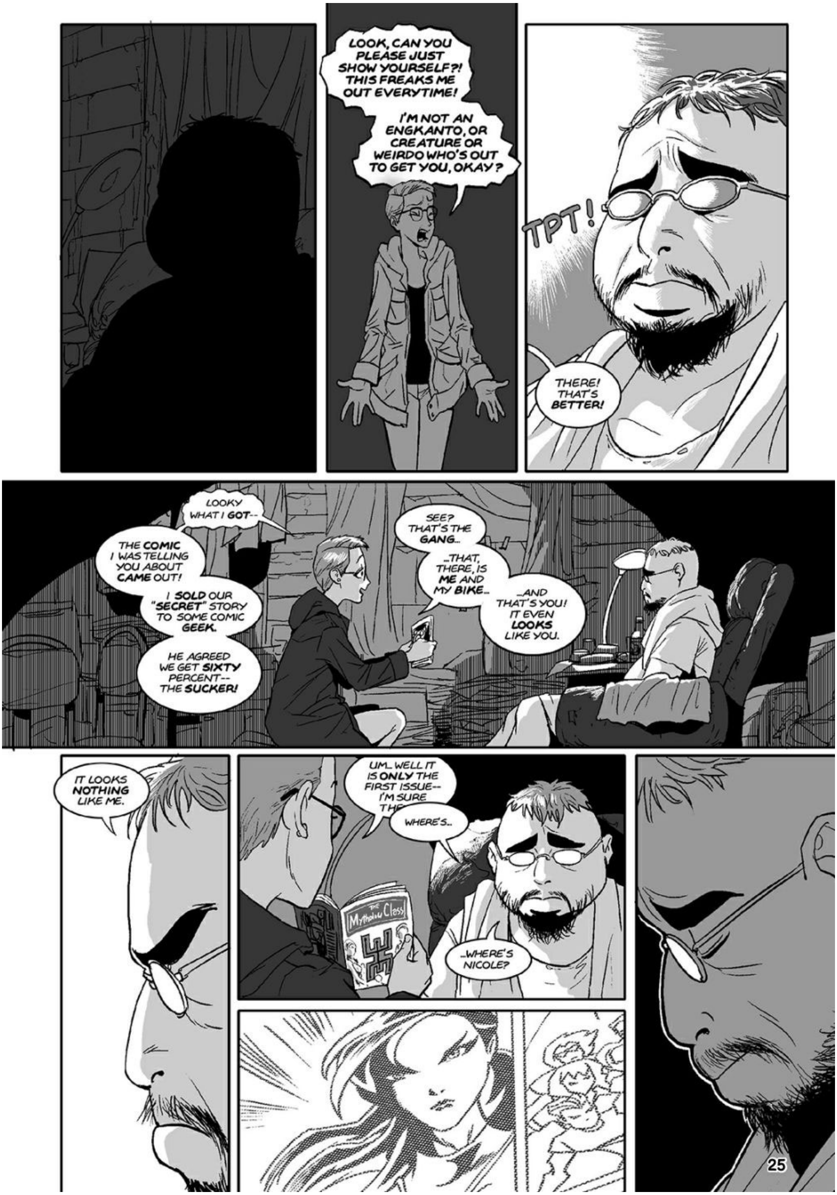

My name is Nicole.
One stormy night, me and my friends were summoned by a mysterious woman straight from myth and legend named Datimbang...
...but we will always remember her as Mrs. Enkanta.
...Tala the Anito...
She, along with her companions; Sulayman, the Mantapuli hero...
...Aili, the powerful psionic...
...Lusyo. the mighty Tikbalang...
...and Kubin, the Ibalon warrior...
...travelled through time and space, arriving here in our world to train us worthy few...
...in tracking down...
...and capturing Engkantos.

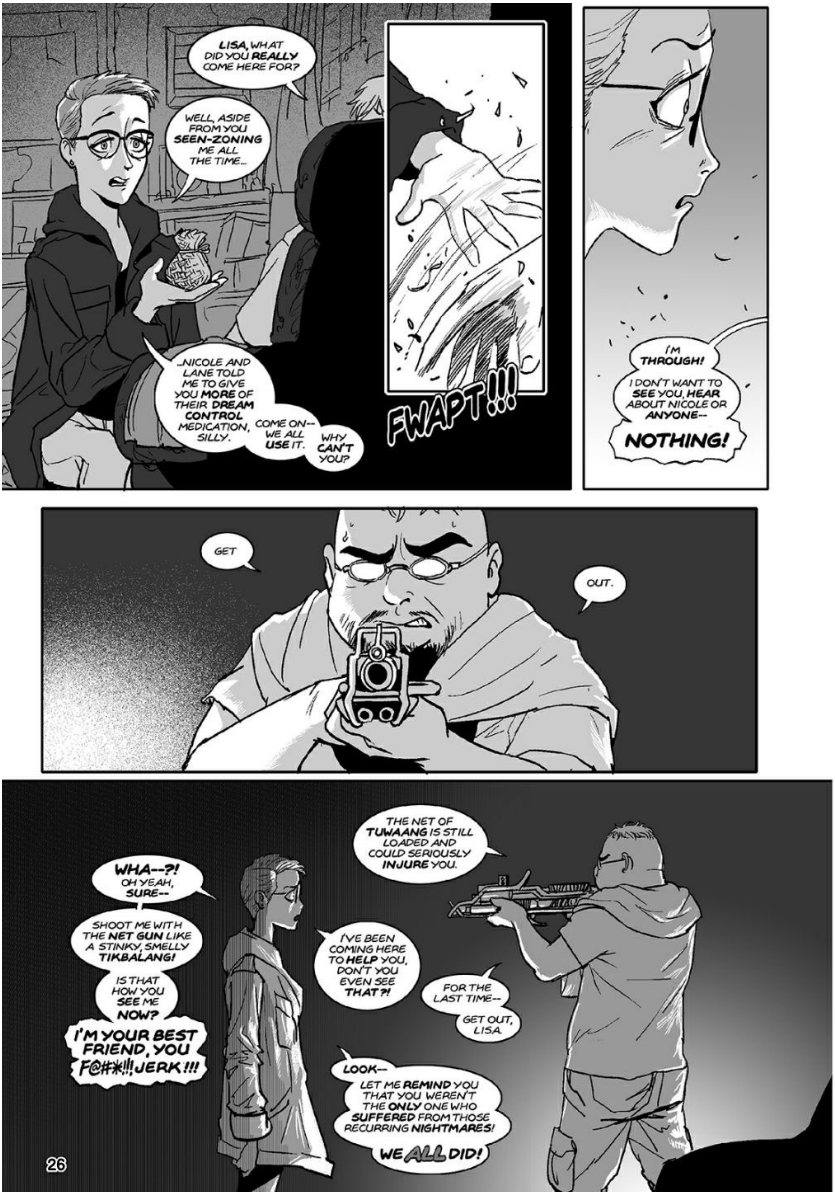

And what adventures we had.
From encountering vicious Manananggals and Kapres to trapping Wild Tikbalangs.
We even fought a horde of Aswangs who captured some of our friends.
With the aid of Mrs. Enkanta and Nuno, a few of us had to travel to the spirit realm to save them.

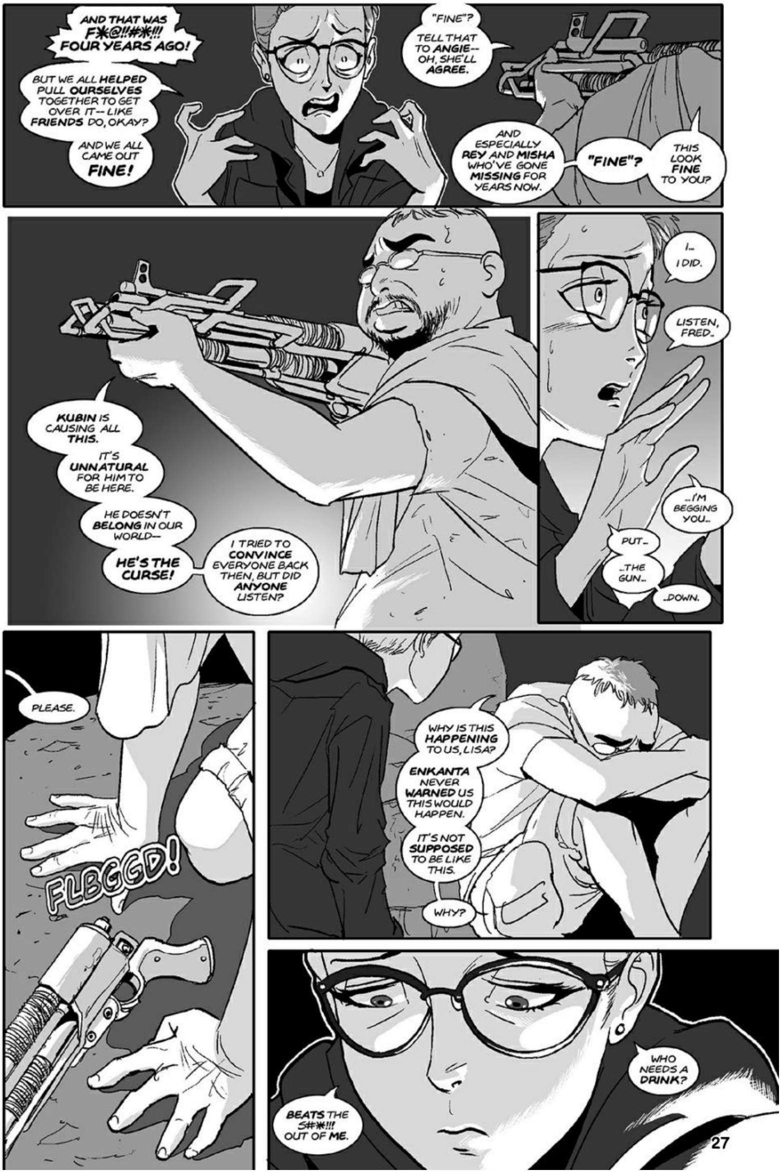

Meanwhile, Kubin and I finally defeated the ancient terror named Sitan by using our skills...
...and by sacrificing Kubin's Magical Kris sword...
...now forever lost in the abyss.
For our efforts, the gods rewarded us with a room full of gold! But it was too much responsibility.
So, after taking just a modest amount for ourselves, we hid the rest in a secret place.
And when the day came that our time-travelling friends must leave...
...Kubin, instead, stayed behind. It was at that moment that I found my one true love.
My name is Nicole.
The story I am about to tell you is true.
Are you ready?
This is...
THE MYTHOLOGY CLASS

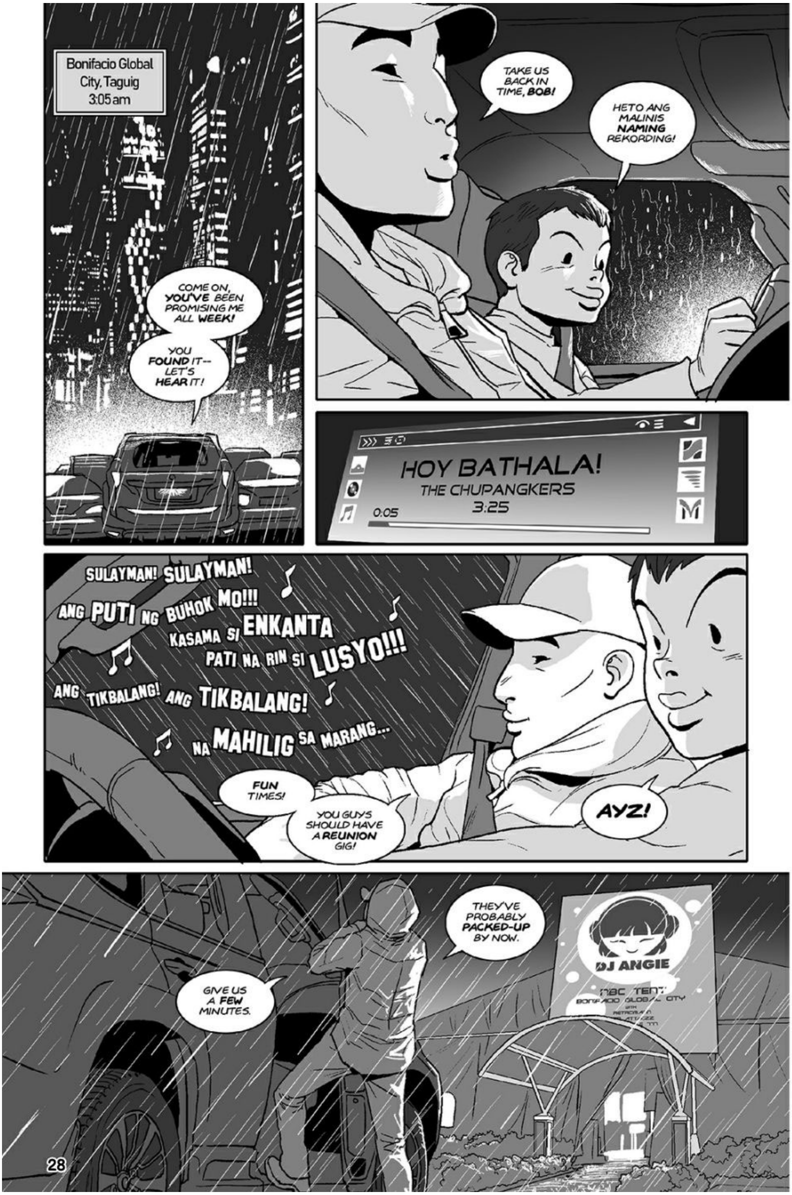

Today's latest
Growing concern over 87 recorded earthquakes at Taal volcano
MANILA, Philippines— (UPDATE) Taal Volcano was rocked by 87 earthquakes in the past 24 hours.
The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology placed the restive volcano under Alert Level 2.
WWWWOOOOOOOOOOOOSSSSSHHHHHHHHHHHH!!!!!!!!
The series of the 87 volcanic quakes recorded up to 2 a.m. Tuesday, 29 were of intensity 1 to 4 and were felt by the residents on the volcano island.
It is advised that the main crater, the Mt. Tabaro and Daang Kastila trail on the island remain off-limits to everybody...
...especially now that typhoon Nona has made landfall with maximum winds of 150 km/h, increased gustiness from 185 km/h to 210 km/h.
BRBRBRBRBRBRBRBRBRBRCLICK!

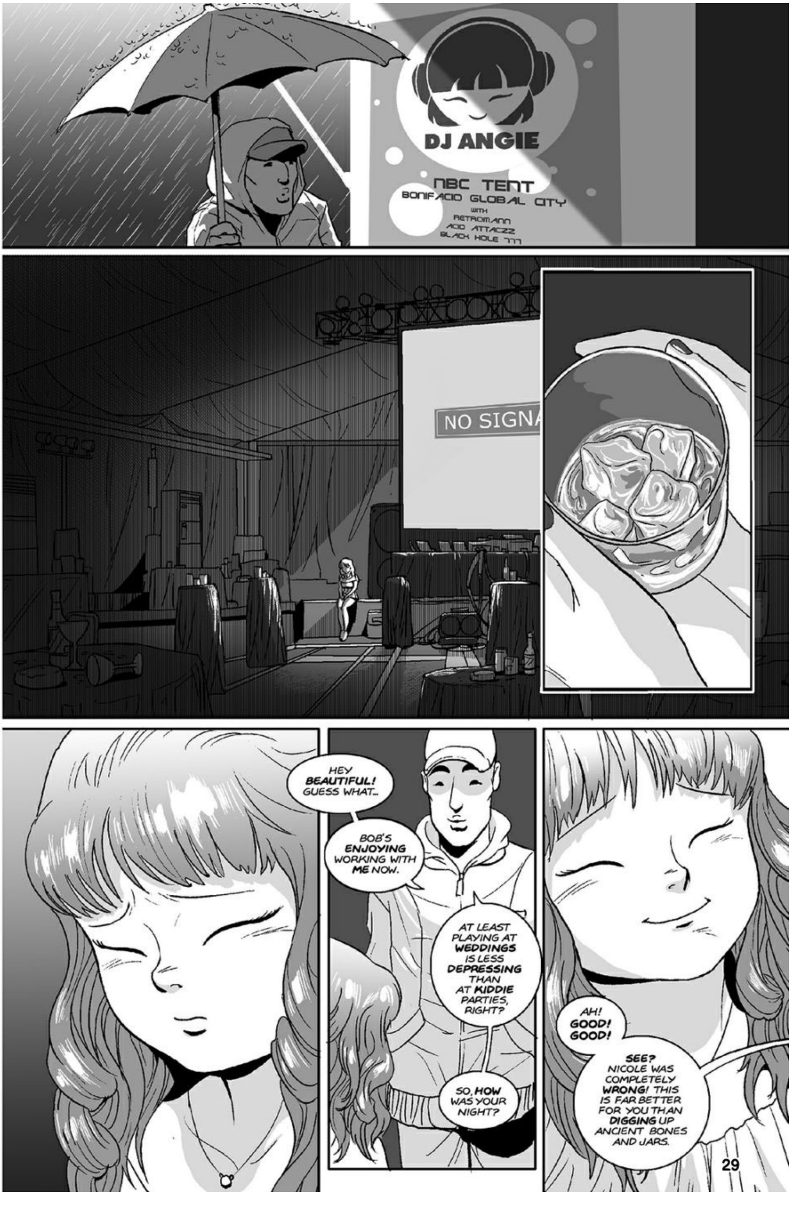

1
!!!
HEY, COME ON!
IT'S NOT SAFE LEAVING YOUR DOOR OPEN LIKE THIS!
NO ENGKANTOS ARE GONNA SNEAK UP ON YOU! WE GOT RID OF 'EM, REMEMBER? HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL...
CLINK! CLINK!
PLINKT!
OH, I GUESS THAT INTERVENTION WAS A BIG WASTE OF TIME THEN.
LOOK, IT'S ME, LISA, OKAY? NO ONE ELSE.
YOU GOTTA TRUST ME, SAM.
LISA...
...FOR THE LAST TIME...
...THE NAME...
...IS FRED.
OKAY, OKAY--
FRED!

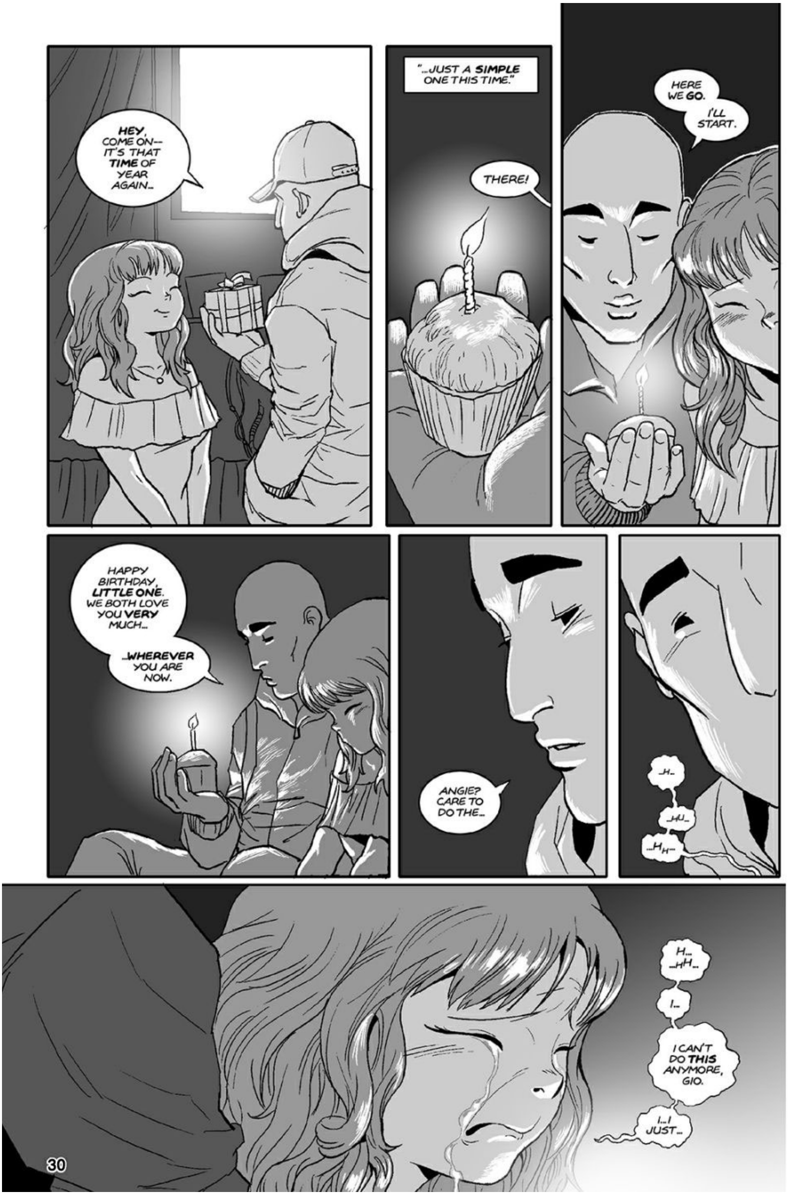

LOOK, CAN YOU PLEASE JUST SHOW YOURSELF?! THIS FREAKS ME OUT EVERYTIME!
I'M NOT AN ENGKANTO, OR CREATURE OR WEIRDO WHO'S OUT TO GET YOU, OKAY?
TPT!
THERE! THAT'S BETTER!
LOOKY WHAT I GOT--
THE COMIC I WAS TELLING YOU ABOUT CAME OUT!
I SOLD OUR "SECRET" STORY TO SOME COMIC GEEK.
HE AGREED WE GET SIXTY PERCENT-- THE SUCKER!
SEE? THAT'S THE GANG..
..THAT, THERE, IS ME AND MY BIKE..
..AND THAT'S YOU! IT EVEN LOOKS LIKE YOU.
IT LOOKS NOTHING LIKE ME.
UM.. WELL IT IS ONLY THE FIRST ISSUE-- I'M SURE TH
WHERE'S..
THE Mythology Class
..WHERE'S NICOLE?

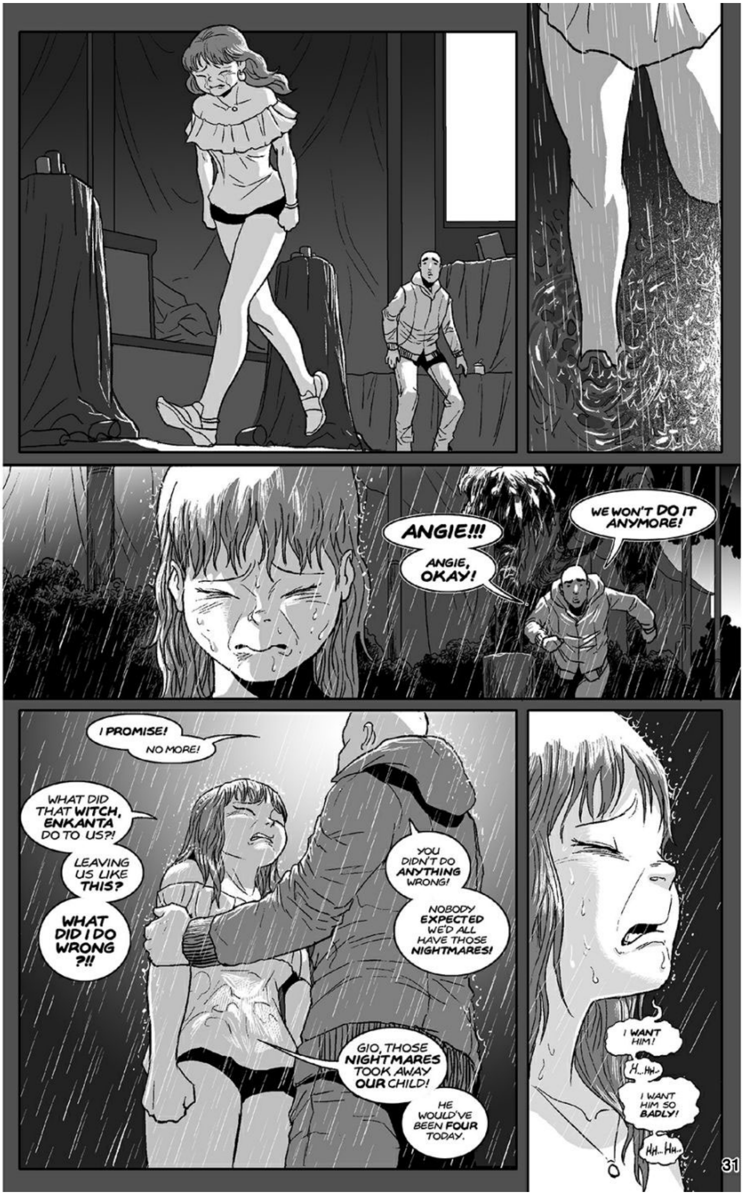

LISA, WHAT DID YOU REALLY COME HERE FOR?
WELL, ASIDE FROM YOU SEEN-ZONING ME ALL THE TIME...
...NICOLE AND LANE TOLD ME TO GIVE YOU MORE OF THEIR DREAM CONTROL MEDICATION, SILLY.
COME ON-- WE ALL USE IT.
WHY CAN'T YOU?
FWAPT!!!
I'M THROUGH!
I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU, HEAR ABOUT NICOLE OR ANYONE--
NOTHING!
GET
OUT.
WHA--?! OH YEAH, SURE--
THE NET OF TUWAANG IS STILL LOADED AND COULD SERIOUSLY INJURE YOU.
SHOOT ME WITH THE NET GUN LIKE A STINKY, SMELLY TIKBALANG!
IS THAT HOW YOU SEE ME NOW?
I'M YOUR BEST FRIEND, YOU F@#*!!! JERK!!!
I'VE BEEN COMING HERE TO HELP YOU, DON'T YOU EVEN SEE THAT?!
FOR THE LAST TIME-- GET OUT, LISA.
LOOK-- LET ME REMIND YOU THAT YOU WEREN'T THE ONLY ONE WHO SUFFERED FROM THOSE RECURRING NIGHTMARES!
WE ALL DID!

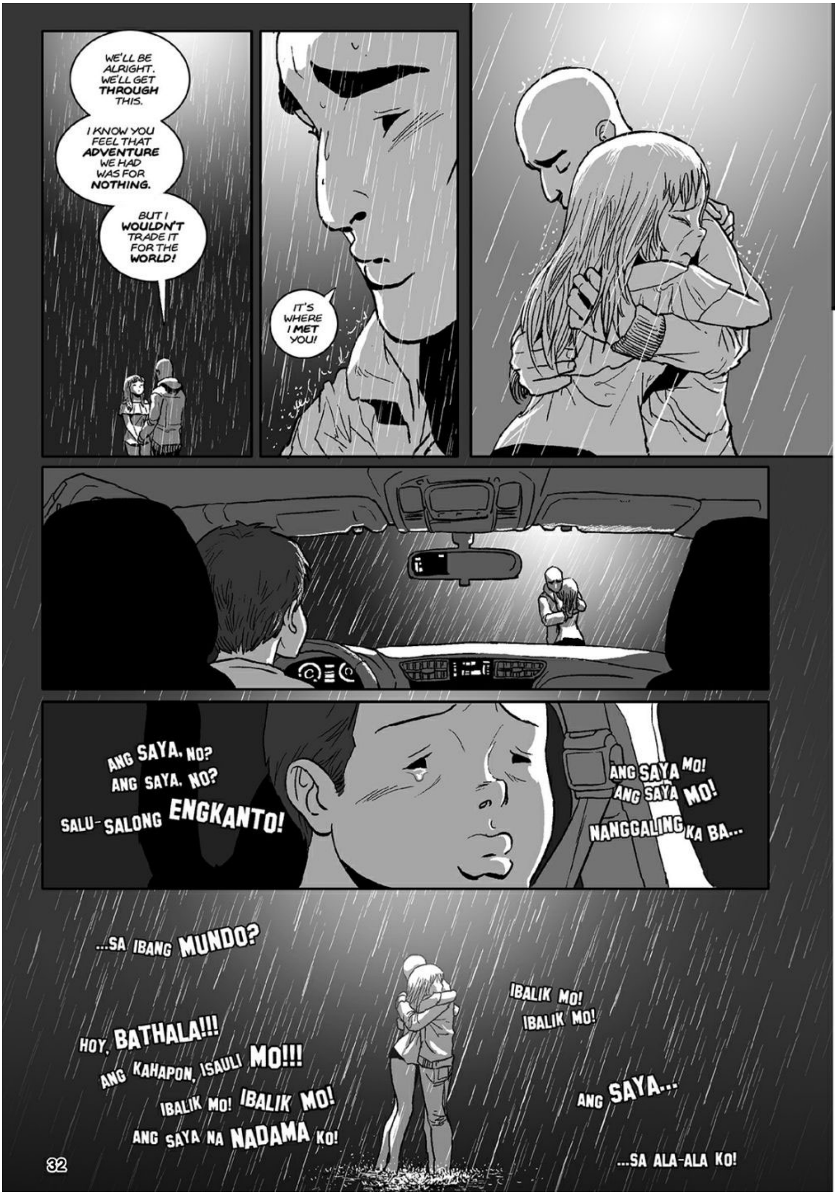

AND THAT WAS F✻@!!#✻!!! FOUR YEARS AGO!
BUT WE ALL HELPED PULL OURSELVES TOGETHER TO GET OVER IT-- LIKE FRIENDS DO, OKAY?
AND WE ALL CAME OUT FINE!
"FINE"? TELL THAT TO ANGIE-- OH, SHE'LL AGREE.
AND ESPECIALLY REY AND MISHA WHO'VE GONE MISSING FOR YEARS NOW.
"FINE"?
THIS LOOK FINE TO YOU?
KUBIN IS CAUSING ALL THIS.
IT'S UNNATURAL FOR HIM TO BE HERE.
HE DOESN'T BELONG IN OUR WORLD--
HE'S THE CURSE!
I TRIED TO CONVINCE EVERYONE BACK THEN, BUT DID ANYONE LISTEN?
I... I DID.
LISTEN, FRED...
...I'M BEGGING YOU...
PUT...
...THE GUN...
...DOWN.
PLEASE.
FLBGGD!
WHY IS THIS HAPPENING TO US, LISA?
ENKANTA NEVER WARNED US THIS WOULD HAPPEN.
IT'S NOT SUPPOSED TO BE LIKE THIS.
WHY?
WHO NEEDS A DRINK?
BEATS THE S#✻!!! OUT OF ME.

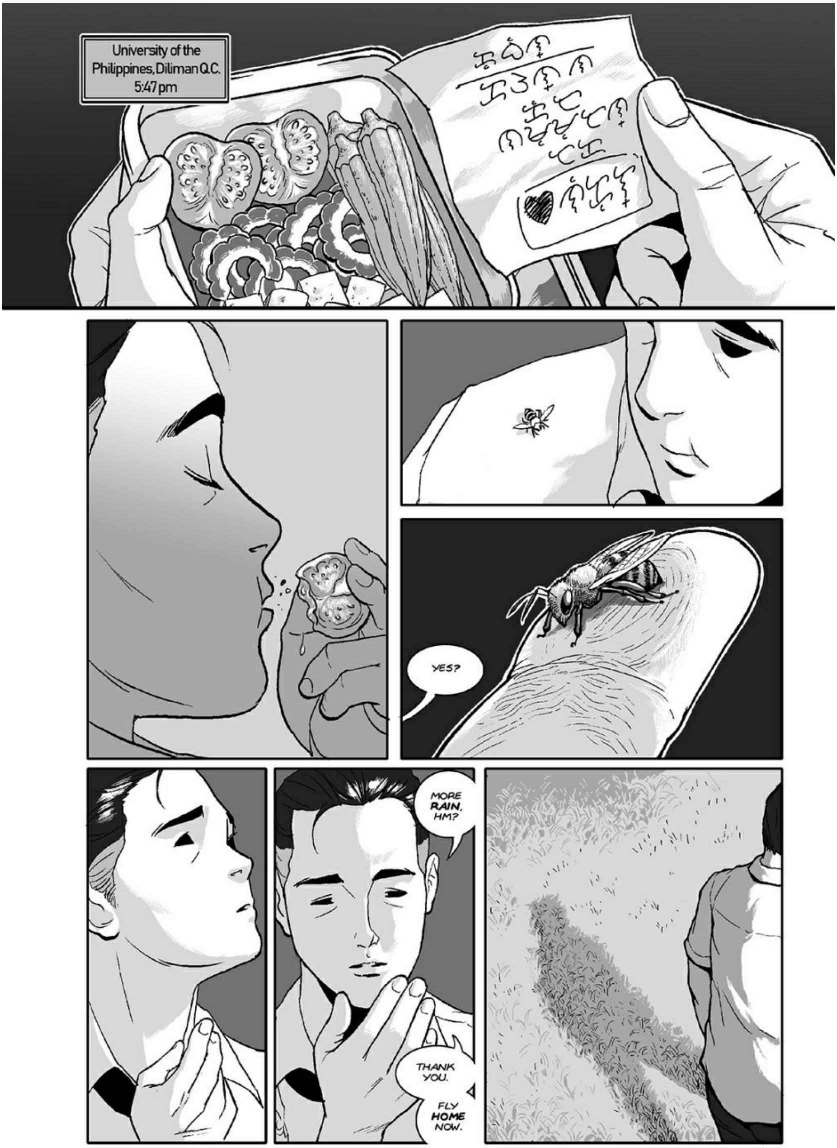

Bonifacio Global City, Taguig 3:05 am
COME ON, YOU'VE BEEN PROMISING ME ALL WEEK!
YOU FOUND IT-- LET'S HEAR IT!
TAKE US BACK IN TIME, BOB!
HETO ANG MALINIS NAMING REKORDING!
HOY BATHALA!
THE CHUPANGKERS
0:05
3:25
SULAYMAN! SULAYMAN!
ANG PUTI NG BUHOK MO!!!
KASAMA SI ENKANTA
PATI NA RIN SI LUSYO!!!
ANG TIKBALANG! ANG TIKBALANG!
NA MAHILIG SA MARANG...
FUN TIMES!
YOU GUYS SHOULD HAVE A REUNION GIG!
AYZ!
THEY'VE PROBABLY PACKED-UP BY NOW.
GIVE US A FEW MINUTES.
DJ ANGIE
NBC TENT
BONIFACIO GLOBAL CITY
WITH
RETROMAN

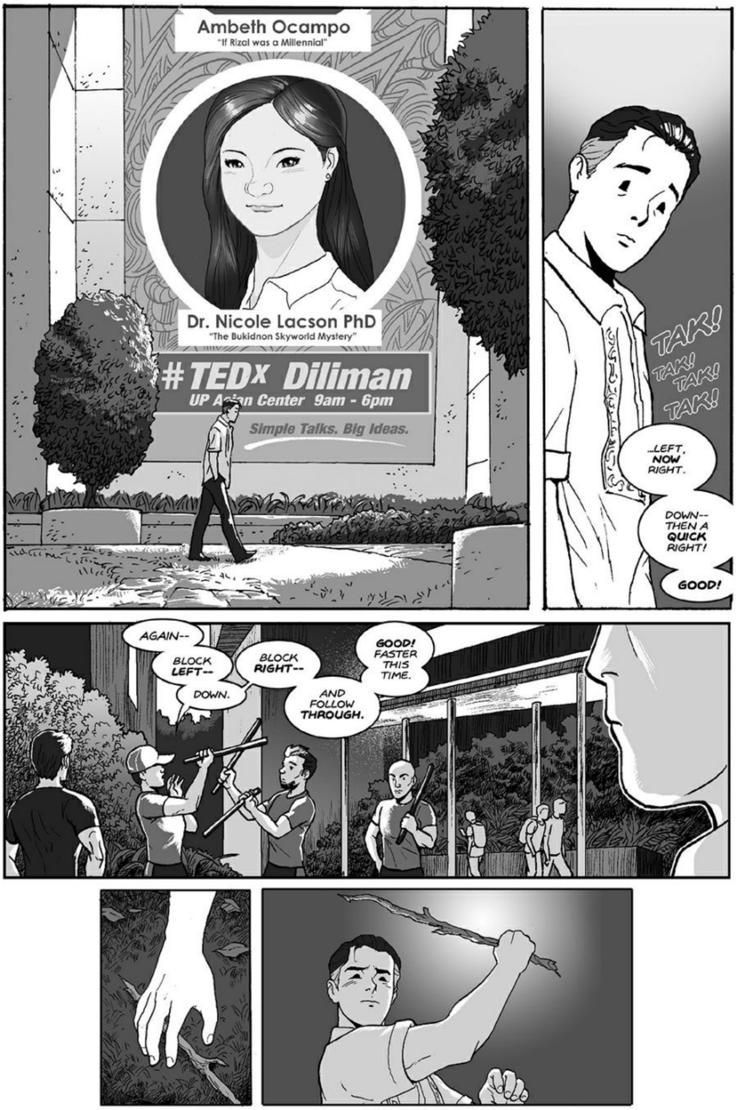

DJ ANGIE
NBC TENT
BONIFACIO GLOBAL CITY
WITH
RETROMANN
ACID ATTACZZ
BLACK HOLE 777
NO SIGNA
HEY **BEAUTIFUL!** GUESS WHAT...
BOB'S **ENJOYING** WORKING WITH **ME** NOW.
AT LEAST PLAYING AT **WEDDINGS** IS LESS **DEPRESSING** THAN AT **KIDDIE** PARTIES, RIGHT?
SO, **HOW** WAS YOUR NIGHT?
AH! **GOOD! GOOD!**
**SEE?** NICOLE WAS COMPLETELY **WRONG!** THIS IS FAR BETTER FOR YOU THAN **DIGGING** UP ANCIENT BONES AND JARS.

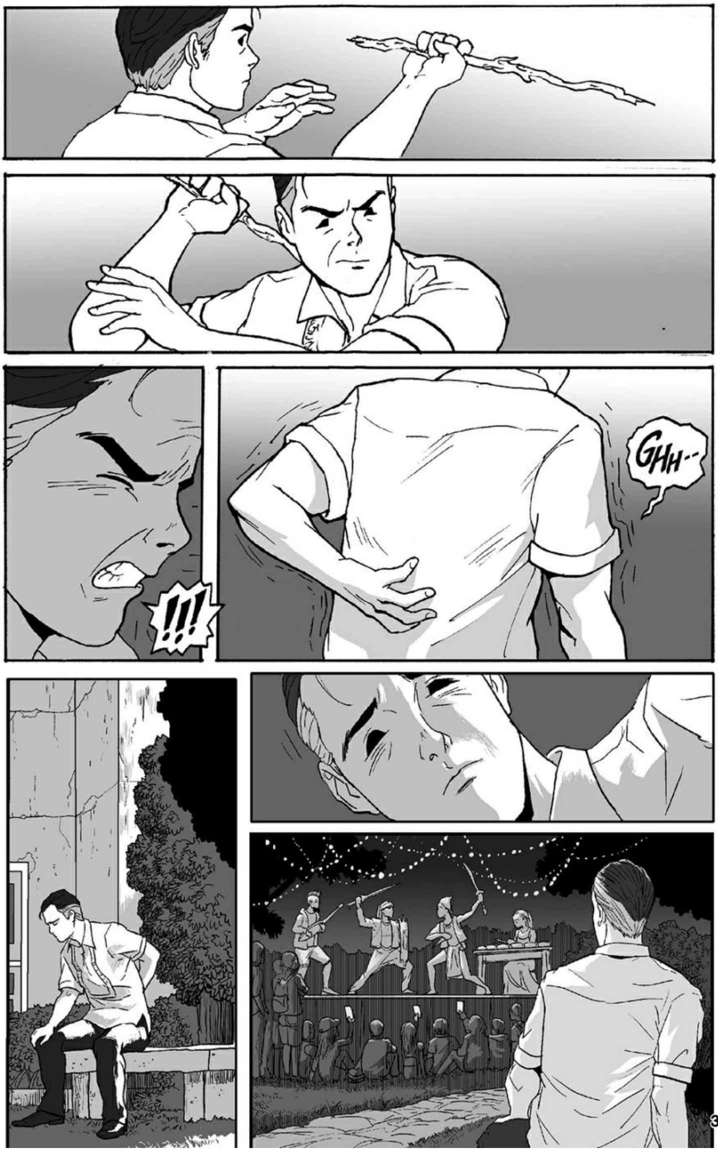

HEY, COME ON-- IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN...
"...JUST A SIMPLE ONE THIS TIME."
THERE!
HERE WE GO.
I'LL START.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, LITTLE ONE. WE BOTH LOVE YOU VERY MUCH...
...WHEREVER YOU ARE NOW.
ANGIE? CARE TO DO THE...
...H...
...HU...
...H$_H$...
H... ...HH...
I...
I CAN'T DO THIS ANYMORE, GIO.
I...I JUST...

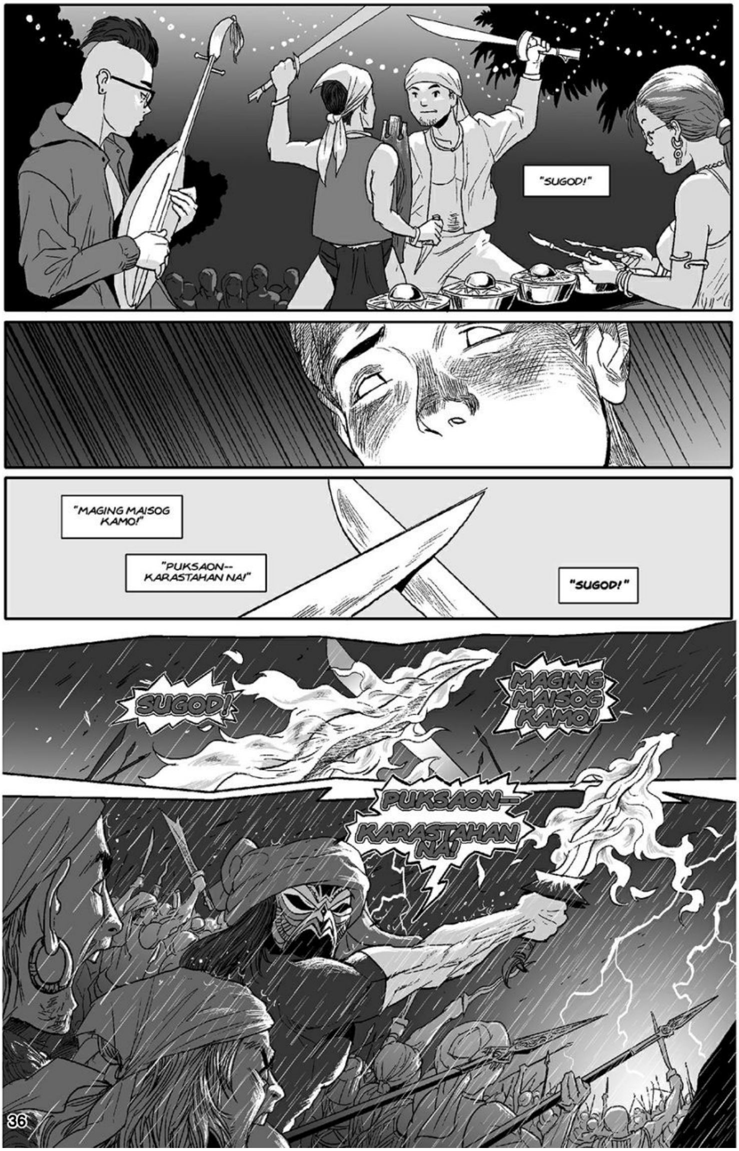

ANGIE!!!
ANGIE, OKAY!
WE WON'T DO IT ANYMORE!
I PROMISE! NO MORE!
WHAT DID THAT WITCH, ENKANTA DO TO US?!
LEAVING US LIKE THIS?
WHAT DID I DO WRONG?!!
YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG!
NOBODY EXPECTED WE'D ALL HAVE THOSE NIGHTMARES!
GIO, THOSE NIGHTMARES TOOK AWAY OUR CHILD!
HE WOULD'VE BEEN FOUR TODAY.
I WANT HIM!
H...HH...
I WANT HIM SO BADLY!
HH... HH...

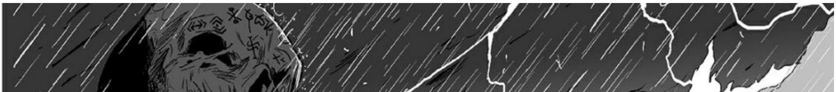

WE'LL BE ALRIGHT. WE'LL GET THROUGH THIS.
I KNOW YOU FEEL THAT ADVENTURE WE HAD WAS FOR NOTHING.
BUT I WOULDN'T TRADE IT FOR THE WORLD!
IT'S WHERE I MET YOU!
ANG SAYA, NO?
ANG SAYA, NO?
SALU-SALONG ENGKANTO!
ANG SAYA MO!
ANG SAYA MO!
NANGGALING KA BA...
...SA IBANG MUNDO?
HOY, BATHALA!!!
ANG KAHAPON, ISAULI MO!!!
IBALIK MO! IBALIK MO!
ANG SAYA NA NADAMA KO!
IBALIK MO!
IBALIK MO!
ANG SAYA...
...SA ALA-ALA KO!

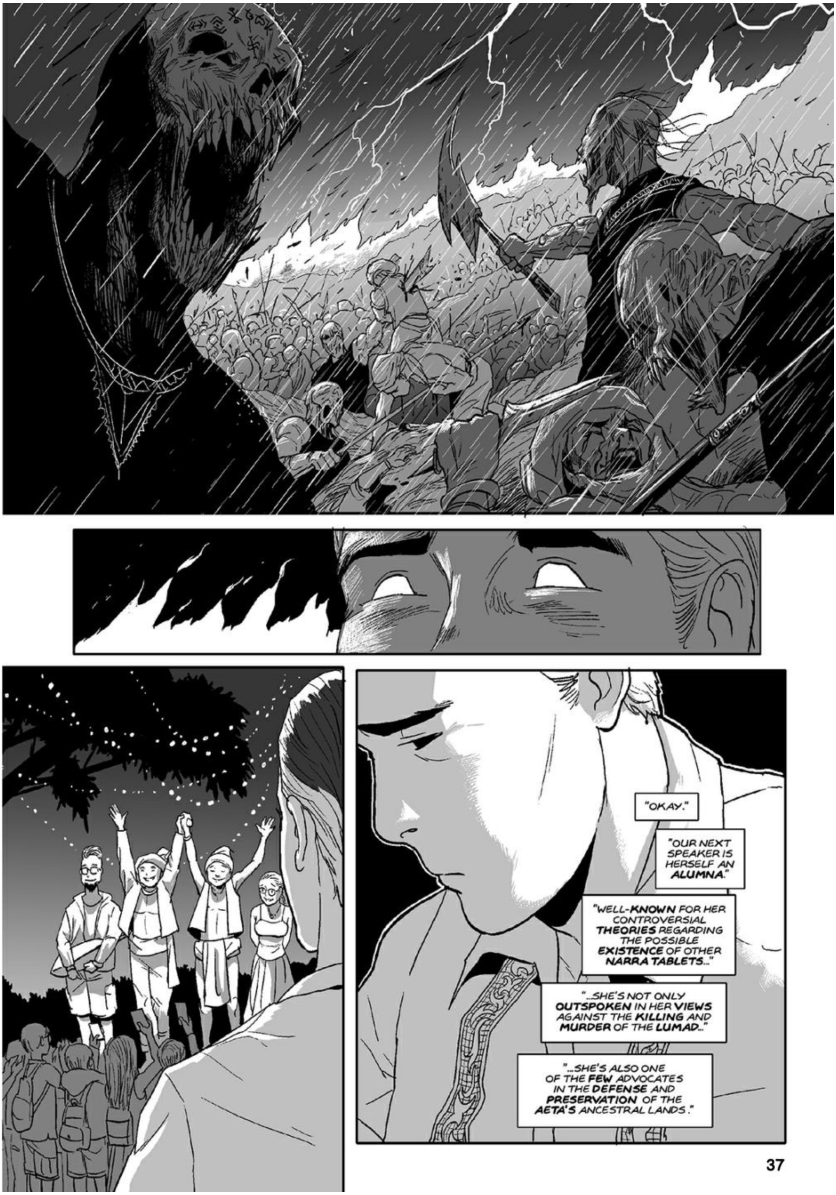

University of the Philippines, Diliman Q.C. 5:47 pm
YES?
MORE **RAIN**, HM?
THANK YOU.
FLY **HOME** NOW.

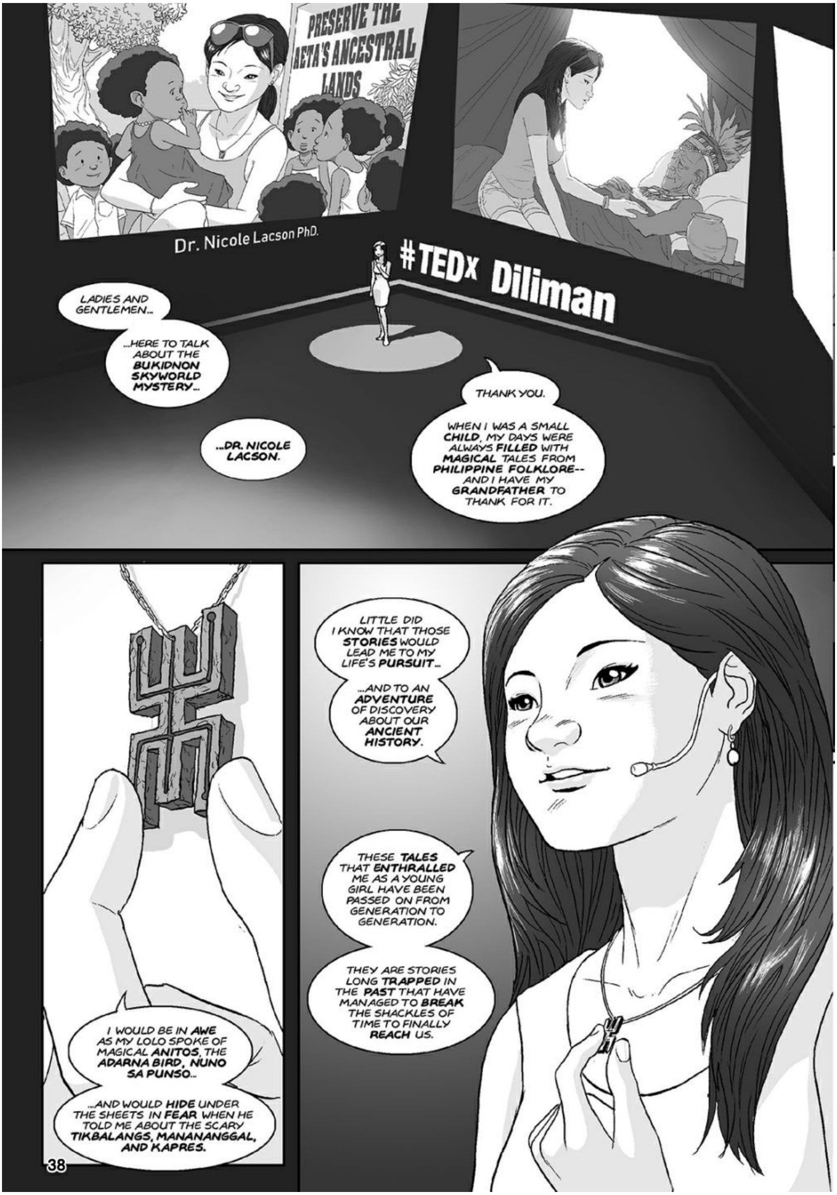

Ambeth Ocampo
"If Rizal was a Millennial"
Dr. Nicole Lacson PhD
"The Bukidnon Skyworld Mystery"
#TEDx Diliman
UP Asian Center 9am - 6pm
Simple Talks. Big Ideas.
TAK!
TAK! TAK! TAK!
...LEFT, NOW RIGHT.
DOWN-- THEN A QUICK RIGHT!
GOOD!
AGAIN--
BLOCK LEFT--
DOWN.
BLOCK RIGHT--
AND FOLLOW THROUGH.
GOOD! FASTER THIS TIME.

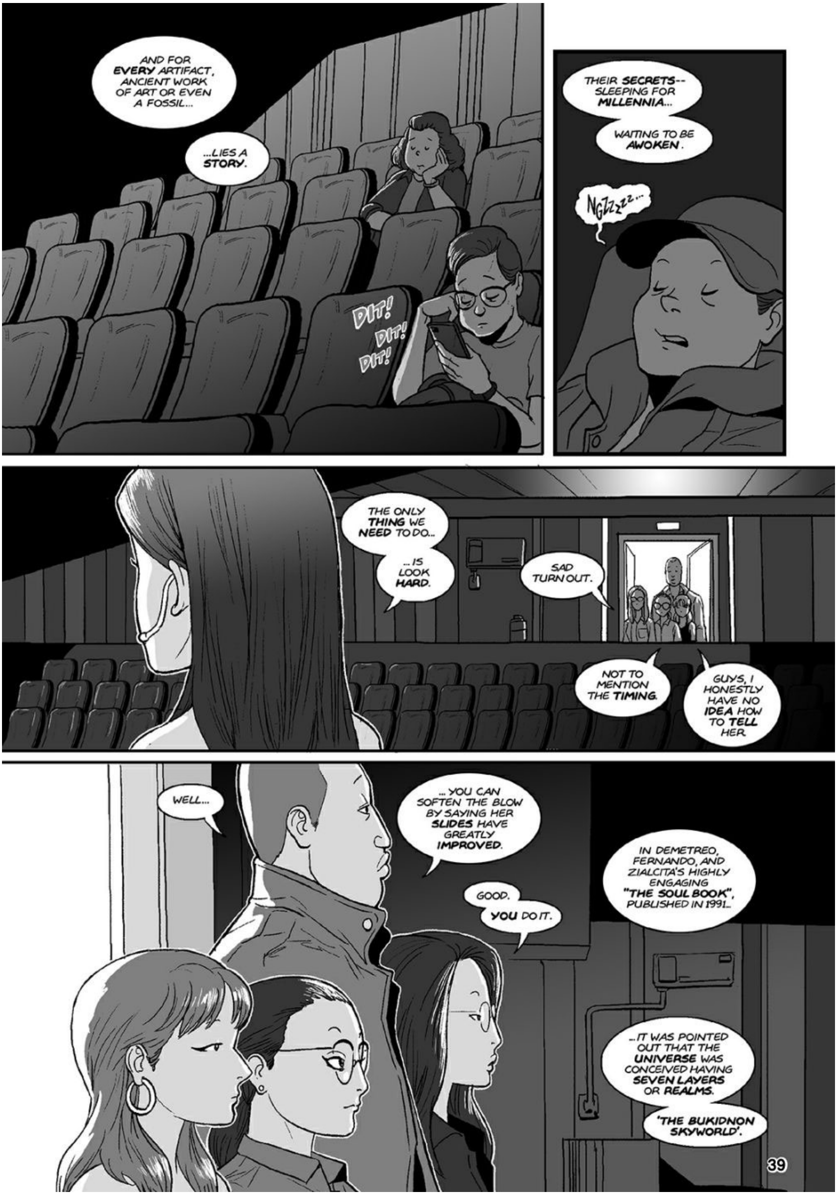

!!!
GHH--

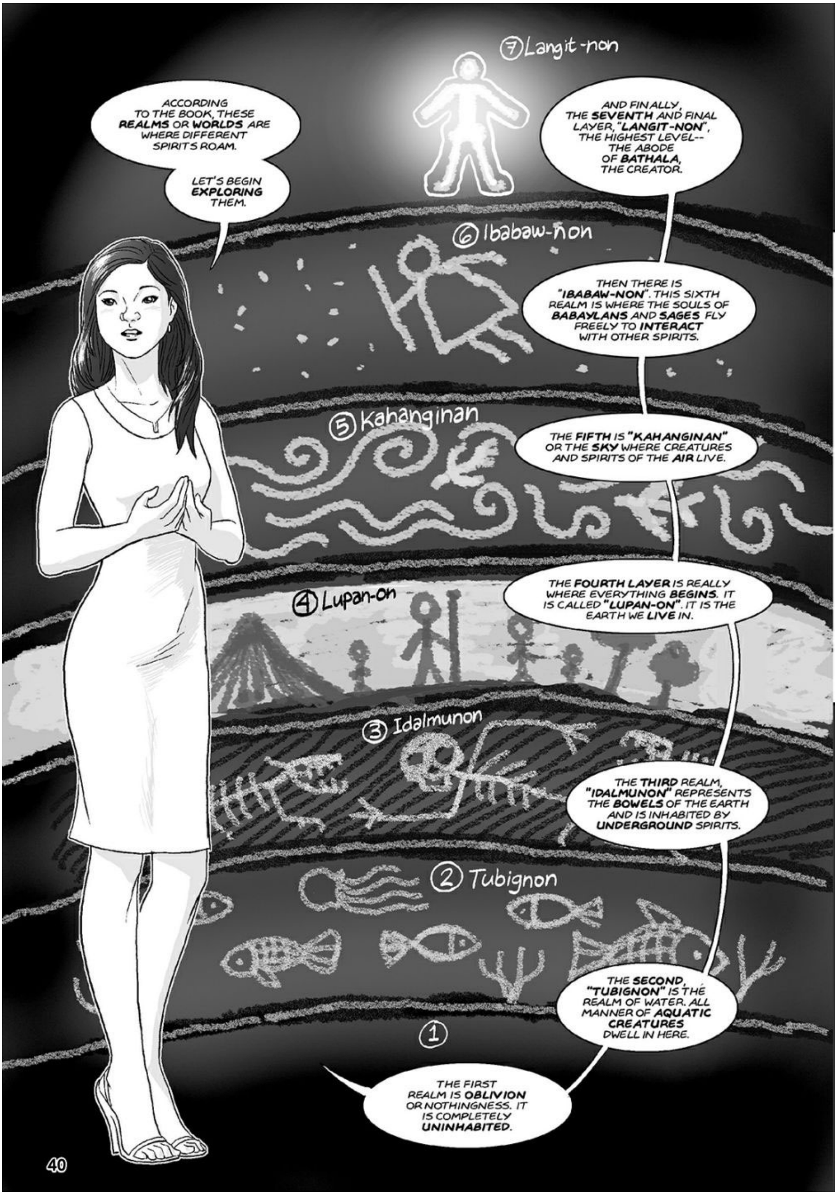

"SUGOD!"
"MAGING MAISOG KAMO!"
"PUKSAON-- KARASTAHAN NA!"
"SUGOD!"
SUGOD!
MAGING MAISOG KAMO!
PUKSAON-- KARASTAHAN NA!

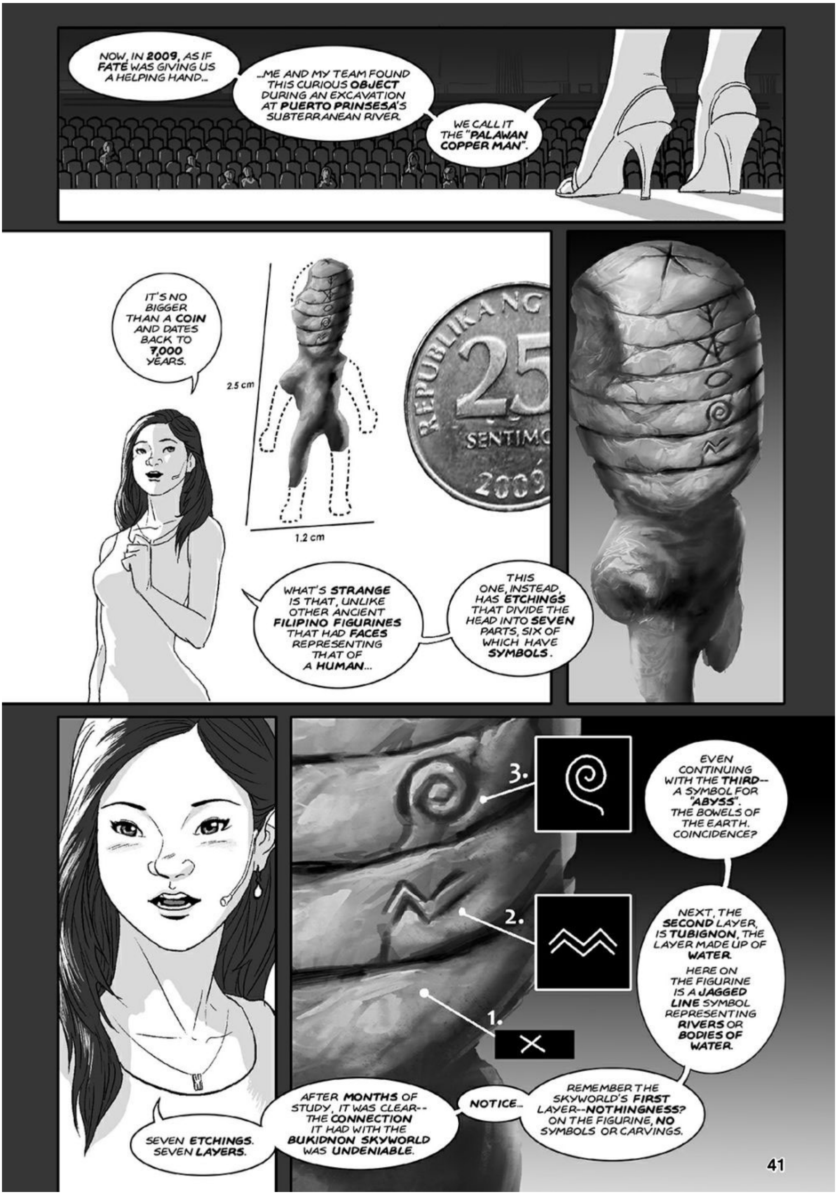


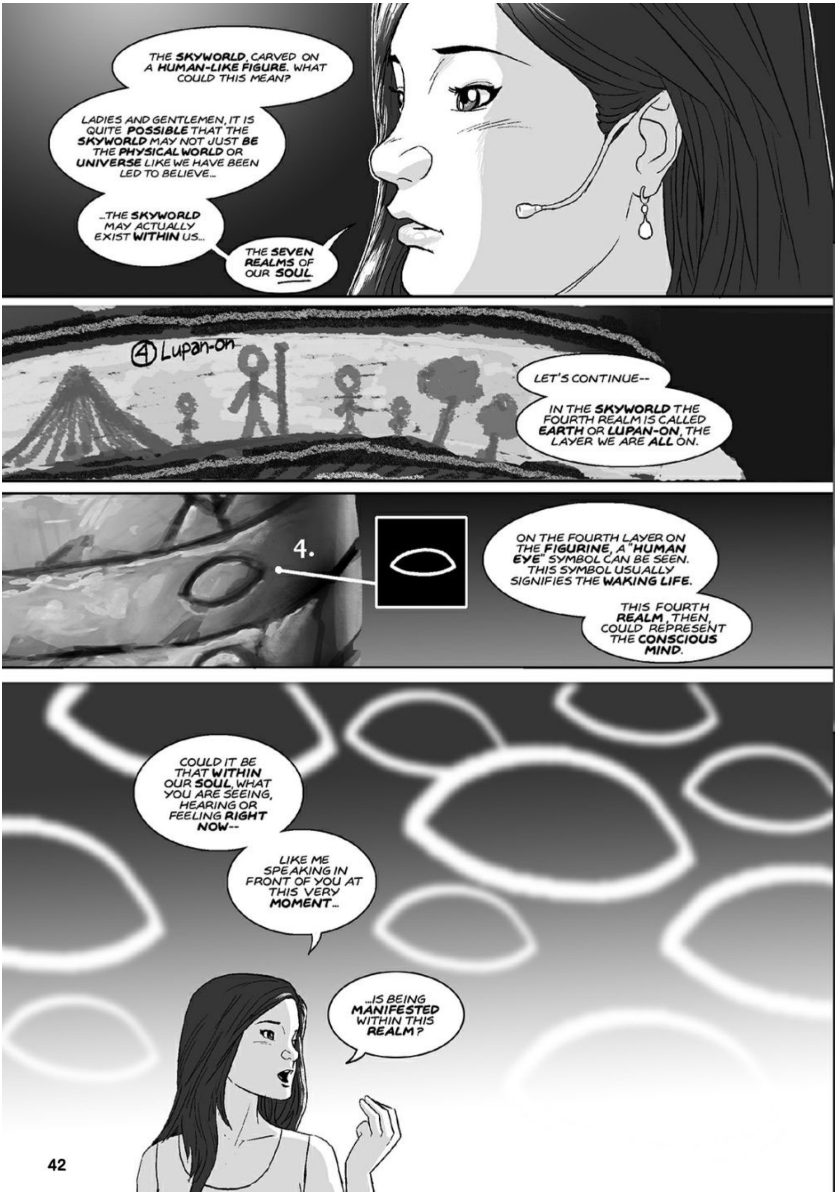

"OKAY."
"OUR NEXT SPEAKER IS HERSELF AN ALUMNA."
"WELL-KNOWN FOR HER CONTROVERSIAL THEORIES REGARDING THE POSSIBLE EXISTENCE OF OTHER NARRA TABLETS..."
"...SHE'S NOT ONLY OUTSPOKEN IN HER VIEWS AGAINST THE KILLING AND MURDER OF THE LUMAD..."
"...SHE'S ALSO ONE OF THE FEW ADVOCATES IN THE DEFENSE AND PRESERVATION OF THE AETA'S ANCESTRAL LANDS."

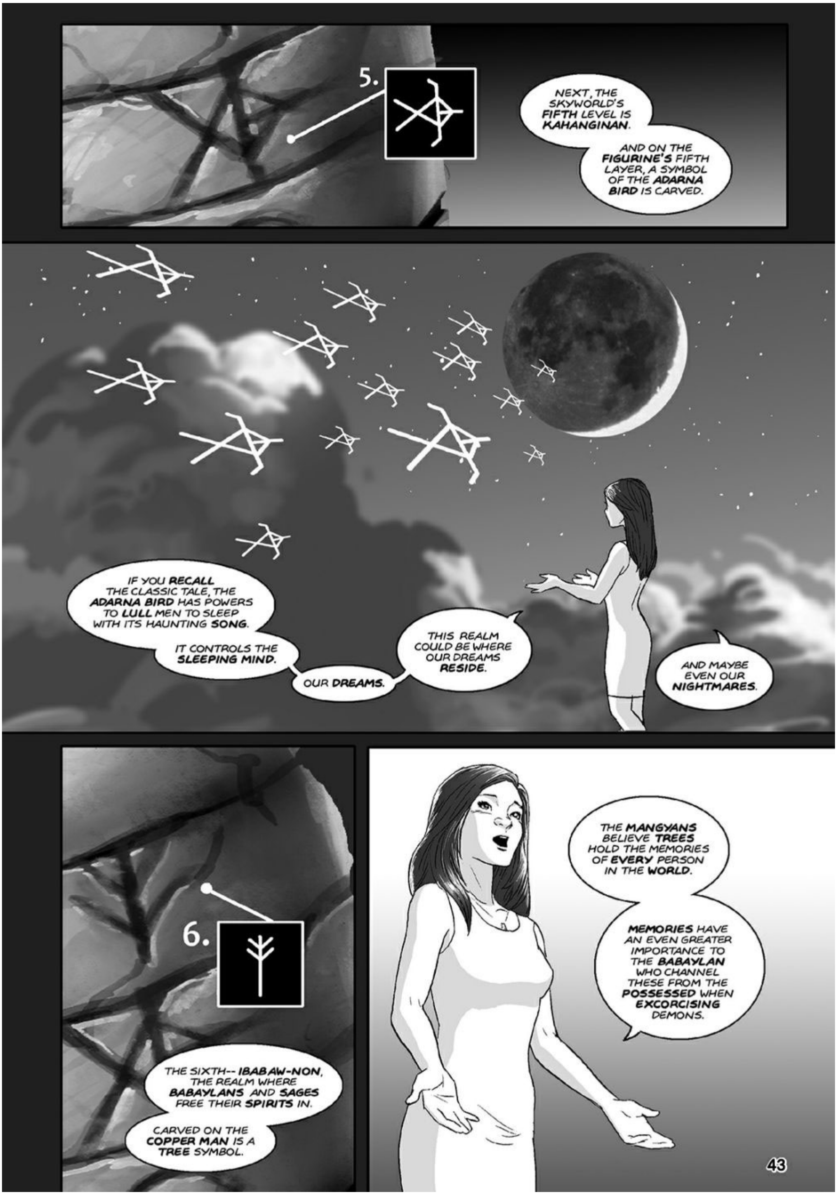

PRESERVE THE AETA'S ANCESTRAL LANDS
Dr. Nicole Lacson PhD.
#TEDx Diliman
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN...
...HERE TO TALK ABOUT THE BUKIDNON SKYWORLD MYSTERY...
...DR. NICOLE LACSON.
THANK YOU.
WHEN I WAS A SMALL CHILD, MY DAYS WERE ALWAYS FILLED WITH MAGICAL TALES FROM PHILIPPINE FOLKLORE-- AND I HAVE MY GRANDFATHER TO THANK FOR IT.
I WOULD BE IN AWE AS MY LOLO SPOKE OF MAGICAL ANITOS, THE ADARNA BIRD, NUNO SA PUNSO...
...AND WOULD HIDE UNDER THE SHEETS IN FEAR WHEN HE TOLD ME ABOUT THE SCARY TIKBALANGS, MANANANGGAL, AND KAPRES.
LITTLE DID I KNOW THAT THOSE STORIES WOULD LEAD ME TO MY LIFE'S PURSUIT...
...AND TO AN ADVENTURE OF DISCOVERY ABOUT OUR ANCIENT HISTORY.
THESE TALES THAT ENTHRALLED ME AS A YOUNG GIRL HAVE BEEN PASSED ON FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION.
THEY ARE STORIES LONG TRAPPED IN THE PAST THAT HAVE MANAGED TO BREAK THE SHACKLES OF TIME TO FINALLY REACH US.

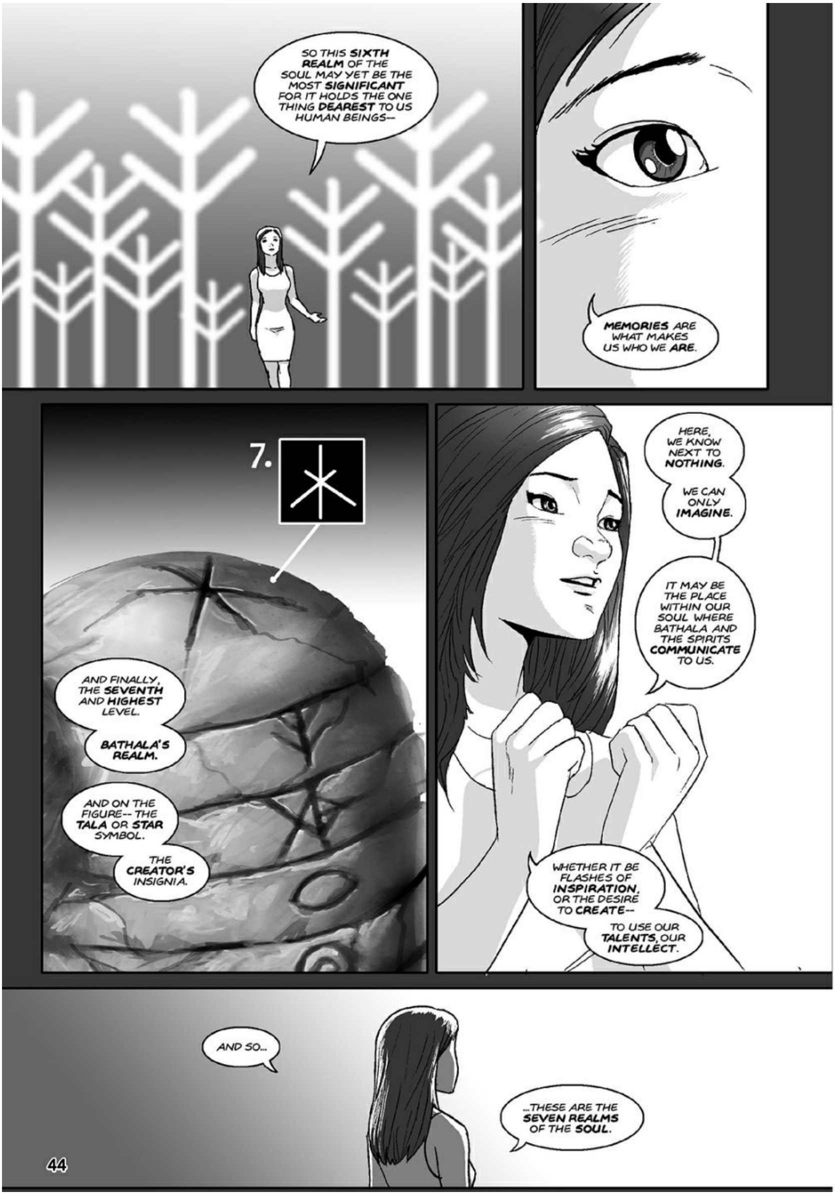

AND FOR EVERY ARTIFACT, ANCIENT WORK OF ART OR EVEN A FOSSIL...
...LIES A STORY.
DIT! DIT! DIT!
THEIR SECRETS-- SLEEPING FOR MILLENNIA...
WAITING TO BE AWOKEN.
NGZZzzz...
THE ONLY THING WE NEED TO DO...
...IS LOOK HARD.
SAD TURN OUT.
NOT TO MENTION THE TIMING.
GUYS, I HONESTLY HAVE NO IDEA HOW TO TELL HER.
WELL...
...YOU CAN SOFTEN THE BLOW BY SAYING HER SLIDES HAVE GREATLY IMPROVED.
GOOD.
YOU DO IT.
IN DEMETREO, FERNANDO, AND ZIALCITA'S HIGHLY ENGAGING "THE SOUL BOOK", PUBLISHED IN 1991...
...IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT THE UNIVERSE WAS CONCEIVED HAVING SEVEN LAYERS OR REALMS.
'THE BUKIDNON SKYWORLD'.

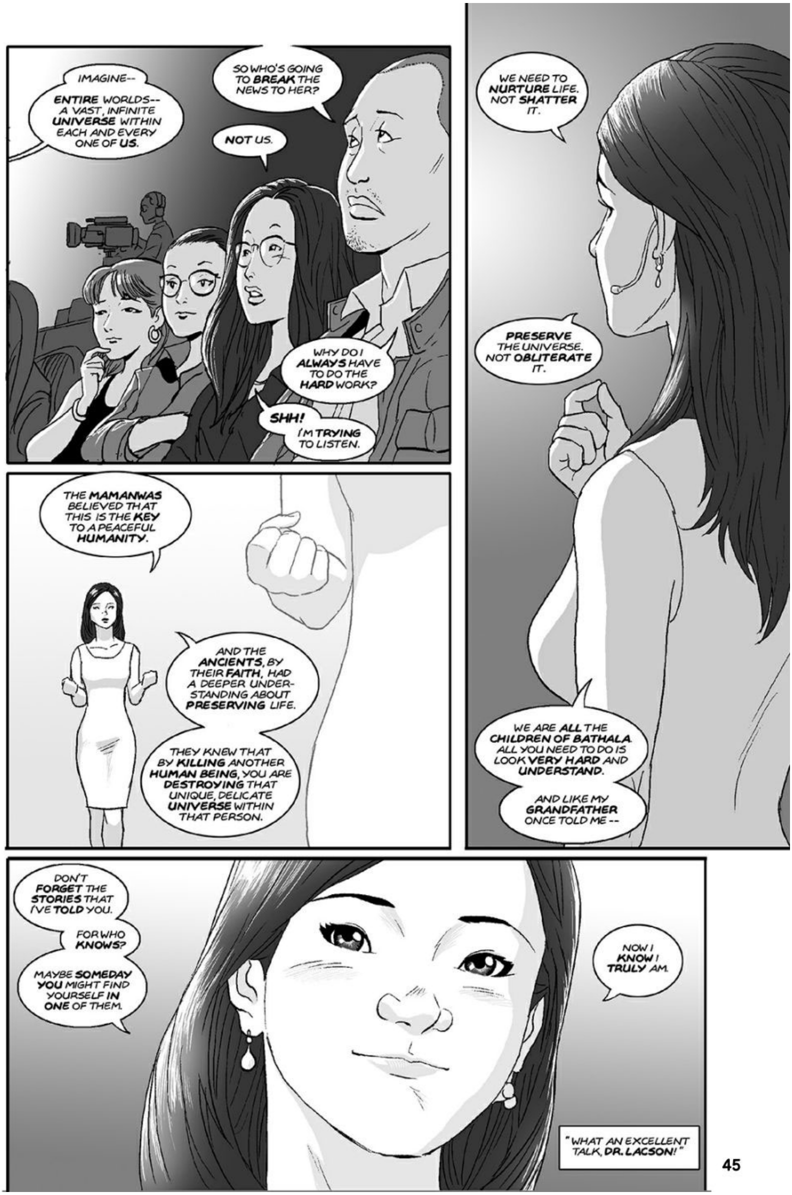

ACCORDING TO THE BOOK, THESE **REALMS** OR **WORLDS** ARE WHERE DIFFERENT SPIRITS ROAM.
LET'S BEGIN **EXPLORING** THEM.
⑦ Langit-non
AND FINALLY, THE **SEVENTH** AND FINAL LAYER, **"LANGIT-NON"**, THE HIGHEST LEVEL-- THE ABODE OF **BATHALA**, THE CREATOR.
⑥ Ibabaw-non
THEN THERE IS **"IBABAW-NON"**. THIS SIXTH REALM IS WHERE THE SOULS OF **BABAYLANS** AND **SAGES** FLY FREELY TO **INTERACT** WITH OTHER SPIRITS.
⑤ Kahanginan
THE **FIFTH** IS **"KAHANGINAN"** OR THE **SKY** WHERE CREATURES AND SPIRITS OF THE **AIR** LIVE.
④ Lupan-on
THE **FOURTH LAYER** IS REALLY WHERE EVERYTHING **BEGINS**. IT IS CALLED **"LUPAN-ON"**. IT IS THE EARTH WE **LIVE** IN.
③ Idalmunon
THE **THIRD** REALM, **"IDALMUNON"** REPRESENTS THE **BOWELS** OF THE EARTH AND IS INHABITED BY **UNDERGROUND** SPIRITS.
② Tubignon
THE **SECOND**, **"TUBIGNON"** IS THE REALM OF WATER. ALL MANNER OF **AQUATIC CREATURES** DWELL IN HERE.
①
THE FIRST REALM IS **OBLIVION** OR NOTHINGNESS. IT IS COMPLETELY **UNINHABITED**.

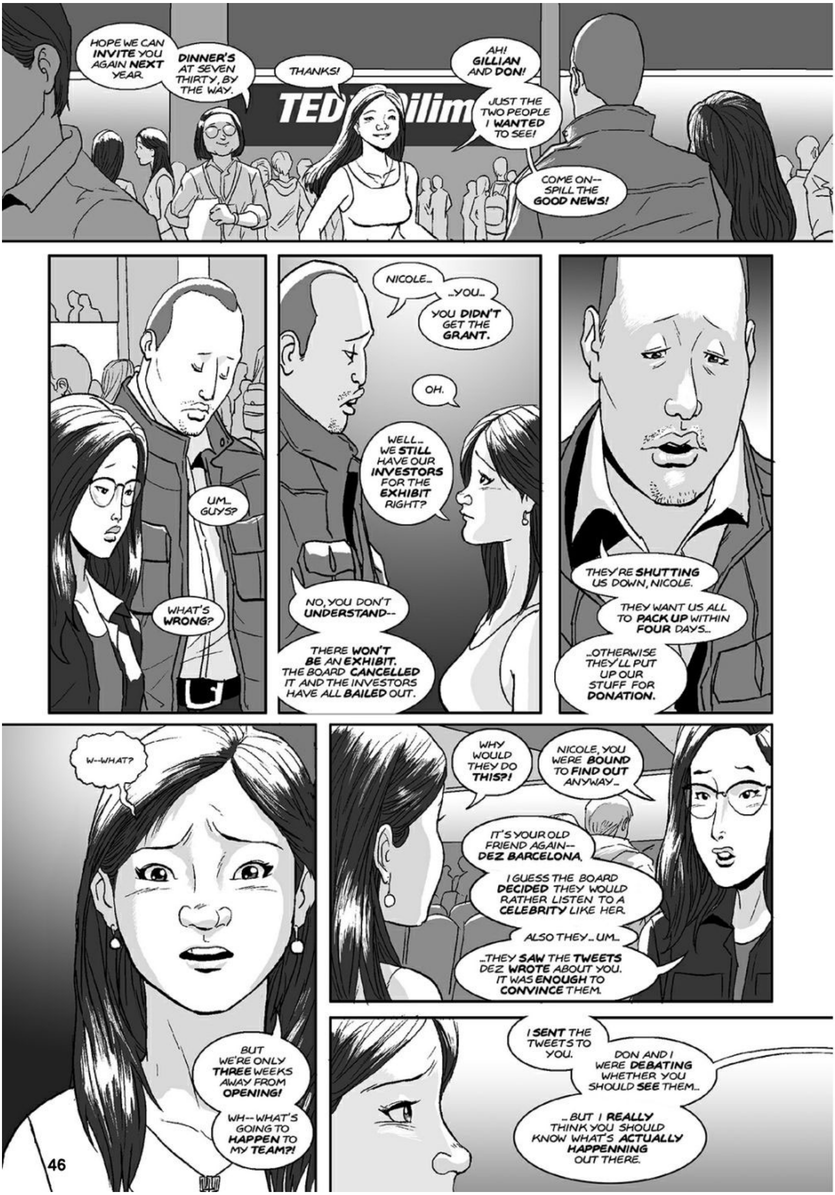

NOW, IN **2009**, AS IF **FATE** WAS GIVING US A HELPING HAND...
...ME AND MY TEAM FOUND THIS CURIOUS **OBJECT** DURING AN EXCAVATION AT **PUERTO PRINSESA**'S SUBTERRANEAN RIVER.
WE CALL IT THE "**PALAWAN COPPER MAN**".
IT'S NO BIGGER THAN A **COIN** AND DATES BACK TO **7,000** YEARS.
2.5 cm
1.2 cm
REPUBLIKA NG
25
SENTIMO
2009
WHAT'S **STRANGE** IS THAT, UNLIKE OTHER ANCIENT **FILIPINO FIGURINES** THAT HAD **FACES** REPRESENTING THAT OF A **HUMAN**...
THIS ONE, INSTEAD, HAS **ETCHINGS** THAT DIVIDE THE HEAD INTO **SEVEN** PARTS, SIX OF WHICH HAVE **SYMBOLS**.
SEVEN **ETCHINGS**. SEVEN **LAYERS**.
AFTER **MONTHS** OF STUDY, IT WAS CLEAR-- THE **CONNECTION** IT HAD WITH THE **BUKIDNON SKYWORLD** WAS **UNDENIABLE**.
NOTICE...
REMEMBER THE SKYWORLD'S **FIRST** LAYER--**NOTHINGNESS**? ON THE FIGURINE, **NO** SYMBOLS OR CARVINGS.
1.
2.
3.
NEXT, THE **SECOND** LAYER, IS **TUBIGNON**, THE LAYER MADE UP OF **WATER**. HERE ON THE FIGURINE IS A **JAGGED LINE** SYMBOL REPRESENTING **RIVERS** OR **BODIES OF WATER**.
EVEN CONTINUING WITH THE **THIRD**-- A SYMBOL FOR "**ABYSS**". THE BOWELS OF THE EARTH. COINCIDENCE?

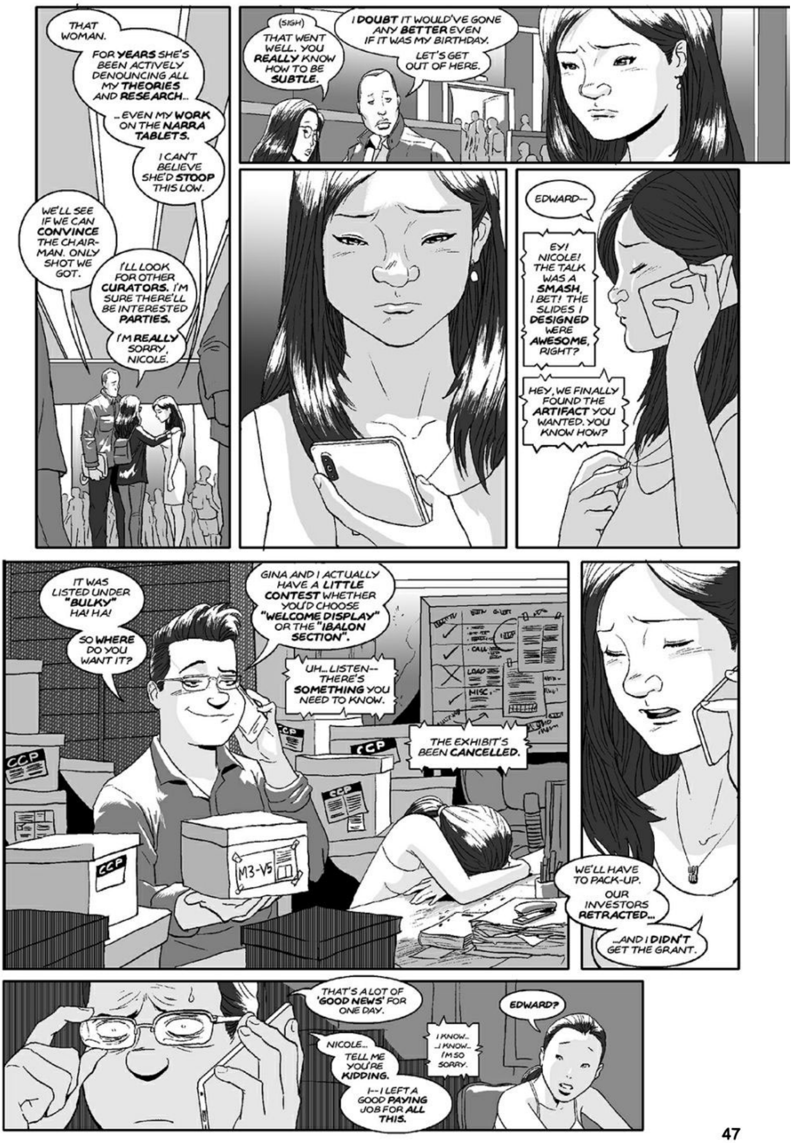

THE **SKYWORLD**, CARVED ON A **HUMAN-LIKE FIGURE**. WHAT COULD THIS MEAN?
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, IT IS QUITE **POSSIBLE** THAT THE **SKYWORLD** MAY NOT JUST **BE** THE **PHYSICAL WORLD** OR **UNIVERSE** LIKE WE HAVE BEEN LED TO BELIEVE...
...THE **SKYWORLD** MAY ACTUALLY EXIST **WITHIN** US...
THE **SEVEN REALMS** OF OUR **SOUL**.
④ Lupan-on
LET'S CONTINUE--
IN THE **SKYWORLD** THE FOURTH REALM IS CALLED **EARTH** OR **LUPAN-ON**, THE LAYER WE ARE **ALL** ON.
4.
ON THE FOURTH LAYER ON THE **FIGURINE**, A "**HUMAN EYE**" SYMBOL CAN BE SEEN. THIS SYMBOL USUALLY SIGNIFIES THE **WAKING LIFE**.
THIS FOURTH **REALM**, THEN, COULD REPRESENT THE **CONSCIOUS MIND**.
COULD IT BE THAT **WITHIN** OUR **SOUL**, WHAT YOU ARE SEEING, HEARING OR FEELING **RIGHT NOW**--
LIKE ME SPEAKING IN FRONT OF YOU AT THIS VERY **MOMENT**...
...IS BEING **MANIFESTED** WITHIN THIS **REALM**?

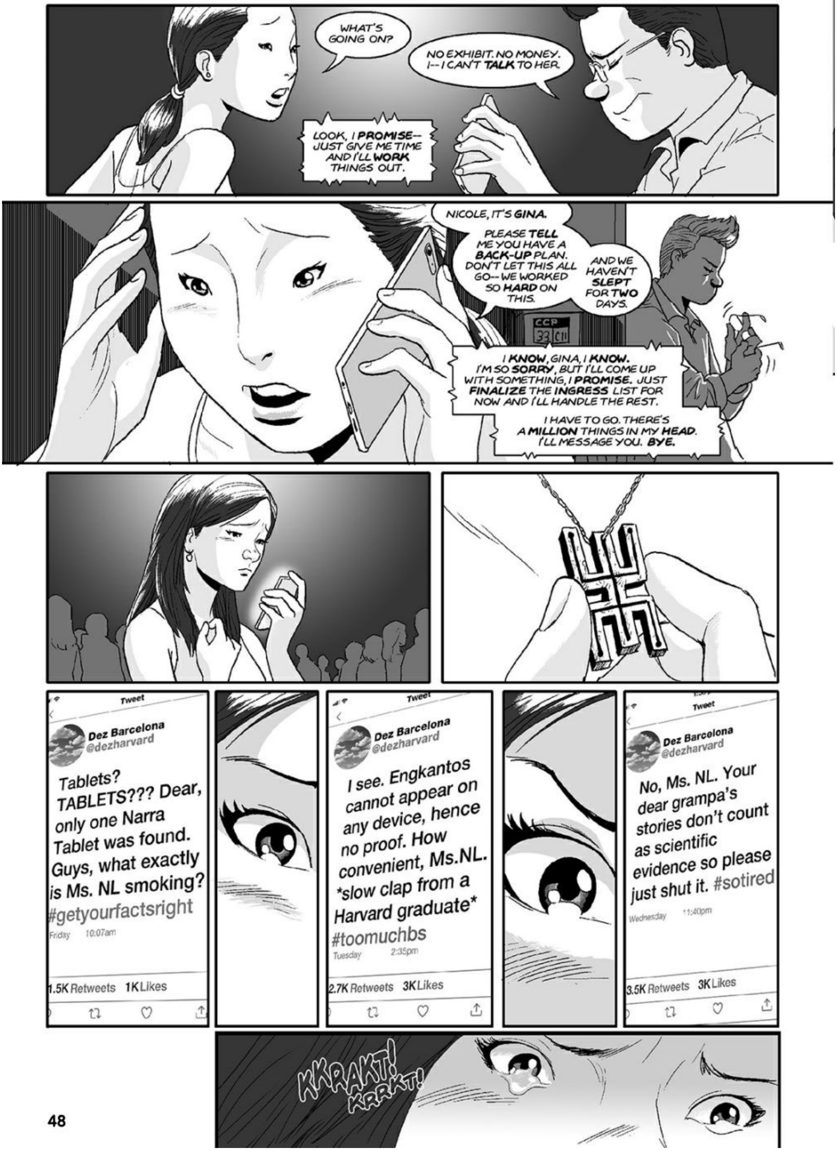

5.
NEXT, THE SKYWORLD'S **FIFTH** LEVEL IS **KAHANGINAN**.
AND ON THE **FIGURINE'S** FIFTH LAYER, A SYMBOL OF THE **ADARNA BIRD** IS CARVED.
IF YOU **RECALL** THE CLASSIC TALE, THE **ADARNA BIRD** HAS POWERS TO **LULL** MEN TO SLEEP WITH ITS HAUNTING **SONG**.
IT CONTROLS THE **SLEEPING MIND**.
OUR **DREAMS**.
THIS REALM COULD BE WHERE OUR DREAMS **RESIDE**.
AND MAYBE EVEN OUR **NIGHTMARES**.
6.
THE SIXTH-- **IBABAW-NON**, THE REALM WHERE **BABAYLANS** AND **SAGES** FREE THEIR **SPIRITS** IN.
CARVED ON THE **COPPER MAN** IS A **TREE** SYMBOL.
THE **MANGYANS** BELIEVE **TREES** HOLD THE MEMORIES OF **EVERY** PERSON IN THE **WORLD**.
**MEMORIES** HAVE AN EVEN GREATER IMPORTANCE TO THE **BABAYLAN** WHO CHANNEL THESE FROM THE **POSSESSED** WHEN **EXCORCISING** DEMONS.


SO THIS SIXTH REALM OF THE SOUL MAY YET BE THE MOST SIGNIFICANT FOR IT HOLDS THE ONE THING DEAREST TO US HUMAN BEINGS--
MEMORIES ARE WHAT MAKES US WHO WE ARE.
7.
AND FINALLY, THE SEVENTH AND HIGHEST LEVEL.
BATHALA'S REALM.
AND ON THE FIGURE-- THE TALA OR STAR SYMBOL.
THE CREATOR'S INSIGNIA.
HERE, WE KNOW NEXT TO NOTHING.
WE CAN ONLY IMAGINE.
IT MAY BE THE PLACE WITHIN OUR SOUL WHERE BATHALA AND THE SPIRITS COMMUNICATE TO US.
WHETHER IT BE FLASHES OF INSPIRATION, OR THE DESIRE TO CREATE--
TO USE OUR TALENTS, OUR INTELLECT.
AND SO...
...THESE ARE THE SEVEN REALMS OF THE SOUL.


IMAGINE--
ENTIRE WORLDS-- A VAST, INFINITE UNIVERSE WITHIN EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US.
SO WHO'S GOING TO BREAK THE NEWS TO HER?
NOT US.
WHY DO I ALWAYS HAVE TO DO THE HARD WORK?
SHH! I'M TRYING TO LISTEN.
THE MAMANWAS BELIEVED THAT THIS IS THE KEY TO A PEACEFUL HUMANITY.
AND THE ANCIENTS, BY THEIR FAITH, HAD A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING ABOUT PRESERVING LIFE.
THEY KNEW THAT BY KILLING ANOTHER HUMAN BEING, YOU ARE DESTROYING THAT UNIQUE, DELICATE UNIVERSE WITHIN THAT PERSON.
WE NEED TO NURTURE LIFE. NOT SHATTER IT.
PRESERVE THE UNIVERSE. NOT OBLITERATE IT.
WE ARE ALL THE CHILDREN OF BATHALA. ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS LOOK VERY HARD AND UNDERSTAND.
AND LIKE MY GRANDFATHER ONCE TOLD ME --
DON'T FORGET THE STORIES THAT I'VE TOLD YOU.
FOR WHO KNOWS?
MAYBE SOMEDAY YOU MIGHT FIND YOURSELF IN ONE OF THEM.
NOW I KNOW I TRULY AM.
"WHAT AN EXCELLENT TALK, DR. LACSON!"


HOPE WE CAN INVITE YOU AGAIN NEXT YEAR.
DINNER'S AT SEVEN THIRTY, BY THE WAY.
TED
THANKS!
AH! GILLIAN AND DON!
JUST THE TWO PEOPLE I WANTED TO SEE!
COME ON-- SPILL THE GOOD NEWS!
UM... GUYS?
WHAT'S WRONG?
NICOLE...
...YOU...
YOU DIDN'T GET THE GRANT.
OH.
WELL... WE STILL HAVE OUR INVESTORS FOR THE EXHIBIT RIGHT?
NO, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND--
THERE WON'T BE AN EXHIBIT. THE BOARD CANCELLED IT AND THE INVESTORS HAVE ALL BAILED OUT.
THEY'RE SHUTTING US DOWN, NICOLE.
THEY WANT US ALL TO PACK UP WITHIN FOUR DAYS...
...OTHERWISE THEY'LL PUT UP OUR STUFF FOR DONATION.
W--WHAT?
BUT WE'RE ONLY THREE WEEKS AWAY FROM OPENING!
WH-- WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO MY TEAM?!
WHY WOULD THEY DO THIS?!
NICOLE, YOU WERE BOUND TO FIND OUT ANYWAY...
IT'S YOUR OLD FRIEND AGAIN-- DEZ BARCELONA.
I GUESS THE BOARD DECIDED THEY WOULD RATHER LISTEN TO A CELEBRITY LIKE HER.
ALSO THEY... UM...
...THEY SAW THE TWEETS DEZ WROTE ABOUT YOU. IT WAS ENOUGH TO CONVINCE THEM.
I SENT THE TWEETS TO YOU.
DON AND I WERE DEBATING WHETHER YOU SHOULD SEE THEM...
...BUT I REALLY THINK YOU SHOULD KNOW WHAT'S ACTUALLY HAPPENNING OUT THERE.


THAT WOMAN.
FOR YEARS SHE'S BEEN ACTIVELY DENOUNCING ALL MY THEORIES AND RESEARCH...
...EVEN MY WORK ON THE NARRA TABLETS.
I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE'D STOOP THIS LOW.
WE'LL SEE IF WE CAN CONVINCE THE CHAIR-MAN. ONLY SHOT WE GOT.
I'LL LOOK FOR OTHER CURATORS. I'M SURE THERE'LL BE INTERESTED PARTIES.
I'M REALLY SORRY, NICOLE.
(SIGH) THAT WENT WELL. YOU REALLY KNOW HOW TO BE SUBTLE.
I DOUBT IT WOULD'VE GONE ANY BETTER EVEN IF IT WAS MY BIRTHDAY.
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE.
EDWARD--
EY! NICOLE! THE TALK WAS A SMASH, I BET! THE SLIDES I DESIGNED WERE AWESOME, RIGHT?
HEY, WE FINALLY FOUND THE ARTIFACT YOU WANTED. YOU KNOW HOW?
IT WAS LISTED UNDER "BULKY" HA! HA!
SO WHERE DO YOU WANT IT?
GINA AND I ACTUALLY HAVE A LITTLE CONTEST WHETHER YOU'D CHOOSE "WELCOME DISPLAY" OR THE "IBALON SECTION".
UH... LISTEN-- THERE'S SOMETHING YOU NEED TO KNOW.
THE EXHIBIT'S BEEN CANCELLED.
CCP
CCP
CCP
CCP
M3-V5
LOAD
CALL
MISC.
WE'LL HAVE TO PACK-UP. OUR INVESTORS RETRACTED...
...AND I DIDN'T GET THE GRANT.
THAT'S A LOT OF 'GOOD NEWS' FOR ONE DAY.
NICOLE... TELL ME YOU'RE KIDDING.
I-- I LEFT A GOOD PAYING JOB FOR ALL THIS.
I KNOW.. ..I KNOW.. I'M SO SORRY.
EDWARD?



WHAT'S GOING ON?
NO EXHIBIT. NO MONEY. I-- I CAN'T **TALK** TO HER.
LOOK, I **PROMISE**-- JUST GIVE ME TIME AND I'LL **WORK** THINGS OUT.
NICOLE, IT'S **GINA.**
PLEASE **TELL** ME YOU HAVE A **BACK-UP** PLAN. DON'T LET THIS ALL GO-- WE WORKED SO **HARD** ON THIS.
AND WE HAVEN'T **SLEPT** FOR **TWO** DAYS.
CCP
33 C11
I **KNOW**, GINA, I **KNOW.** I'M SO **SORRY**, BUT I'LL COME UP WITH SOMETHING, I **PROMISE.** JUST **FINALIZE** THE **INGRESS** LIST FOR NOW AND I'LL HANDLE THE REST.
I HAVE TO GO. THERE'S A **MILLION** THINGS IN MY **HEAD.** I'LL MESSAGE YOU. **BYE.**
KKRAKT! KRRKT!

Tweet

**Dez Barcelona**
@dezharvard

Tablets? TABLETS??? Dear, only one Narra Tablet was found. Guys, what exactly is Ms. NL smoking? #getyourfactsright

Friday 10:07am

**1.5K** Retweets **1K** Likes

Tweet

**Dez Barcelona**
@dezharvard

I see. Engkantos cannot appear on any device, hence no proof. How convenient, Ms.NL. *slow clap from a Harvard graduate* #toomuchbs

Tuesday 2:35pm

**2.7K** Retweets **3K** Likes

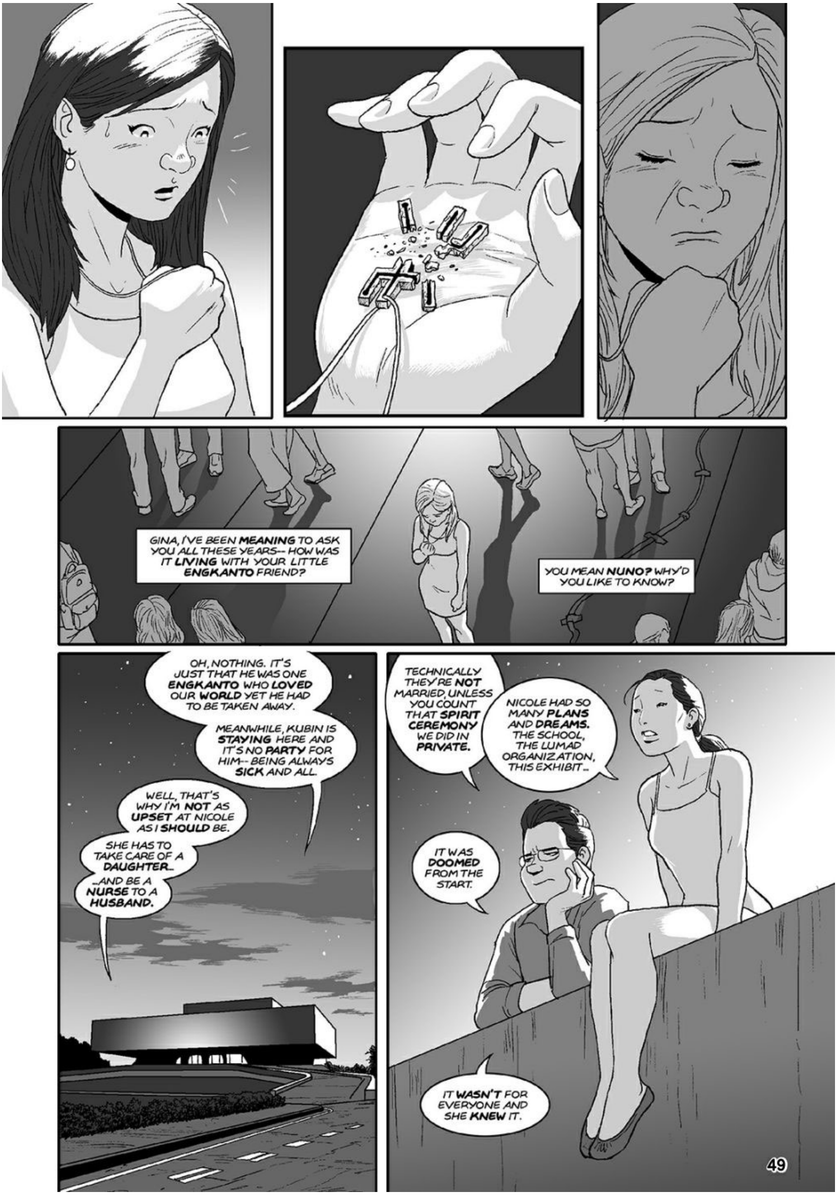
Tweet

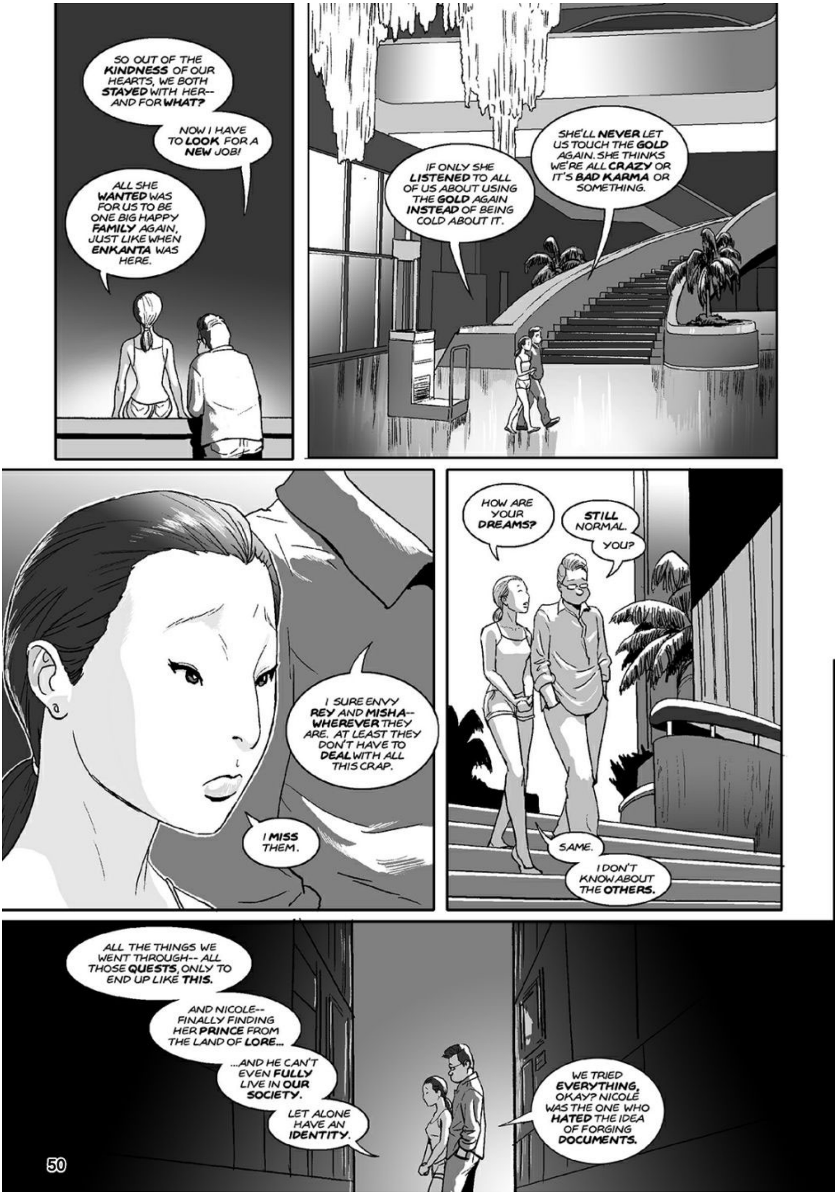
**Dez Barcelona**
@dezharvard

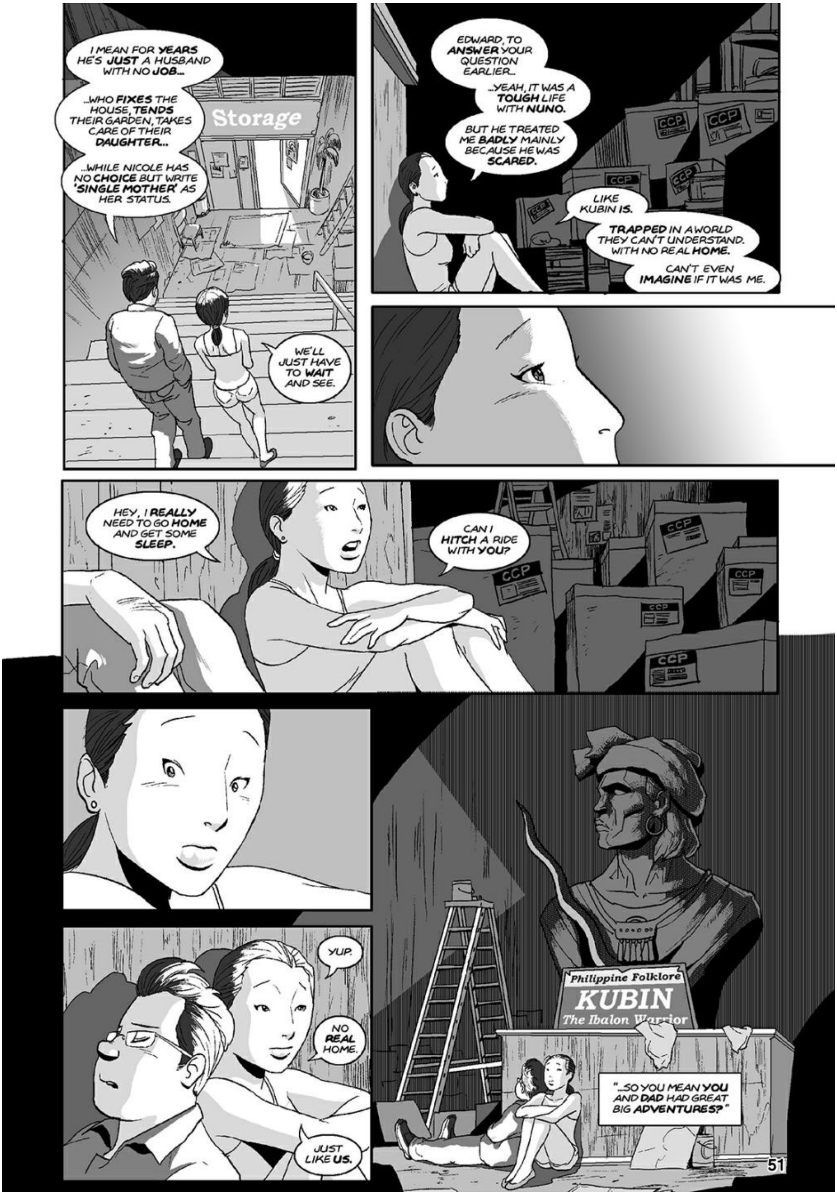
No, Ms. NL. Your dear grampa's stories don't count as scientific evidence so please just shut it. #sotired

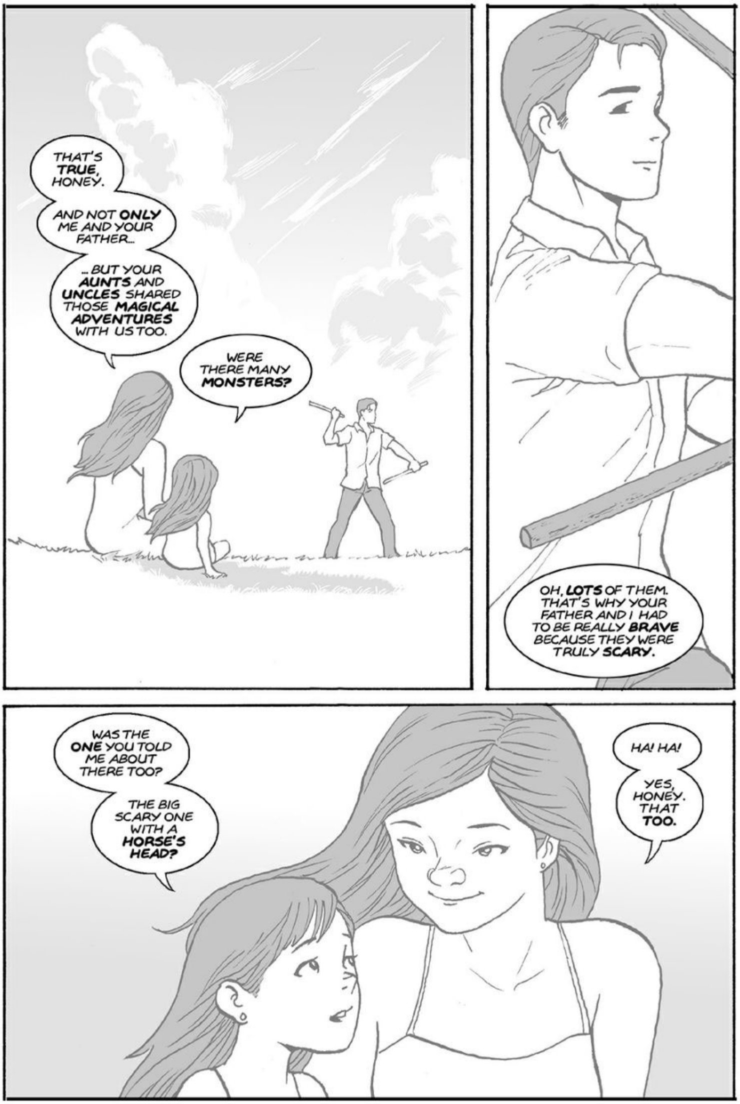
Wednesday 11:40pm

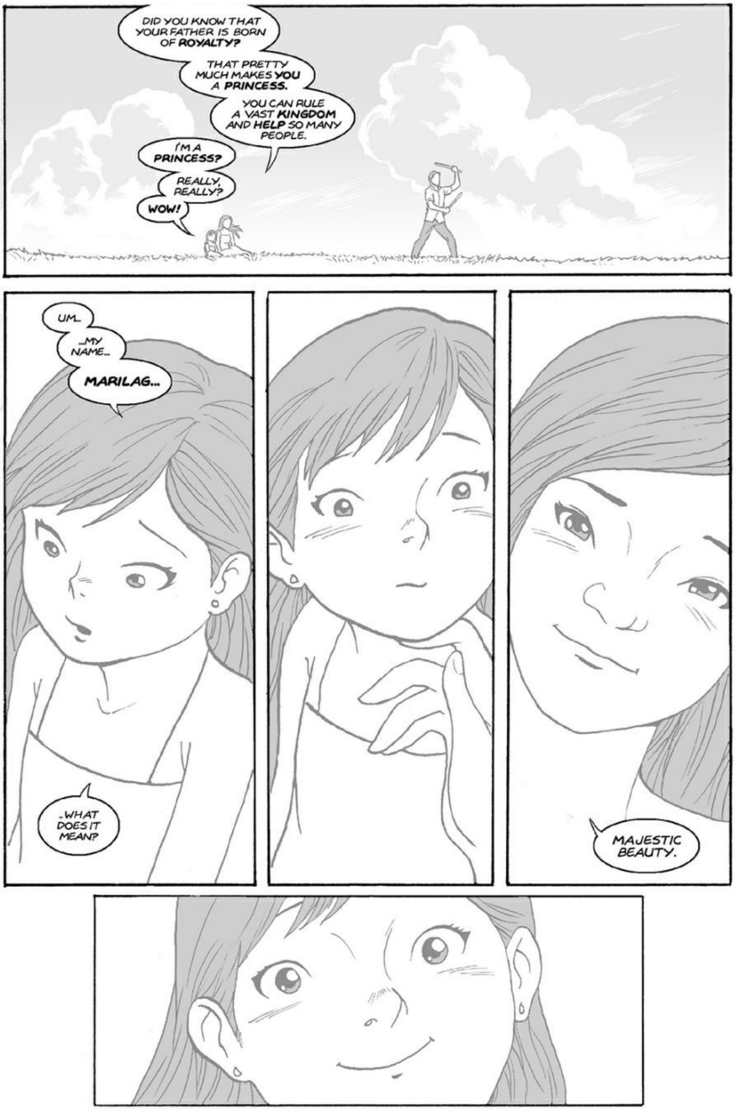
**3.5K** Retweets **3K** Likes

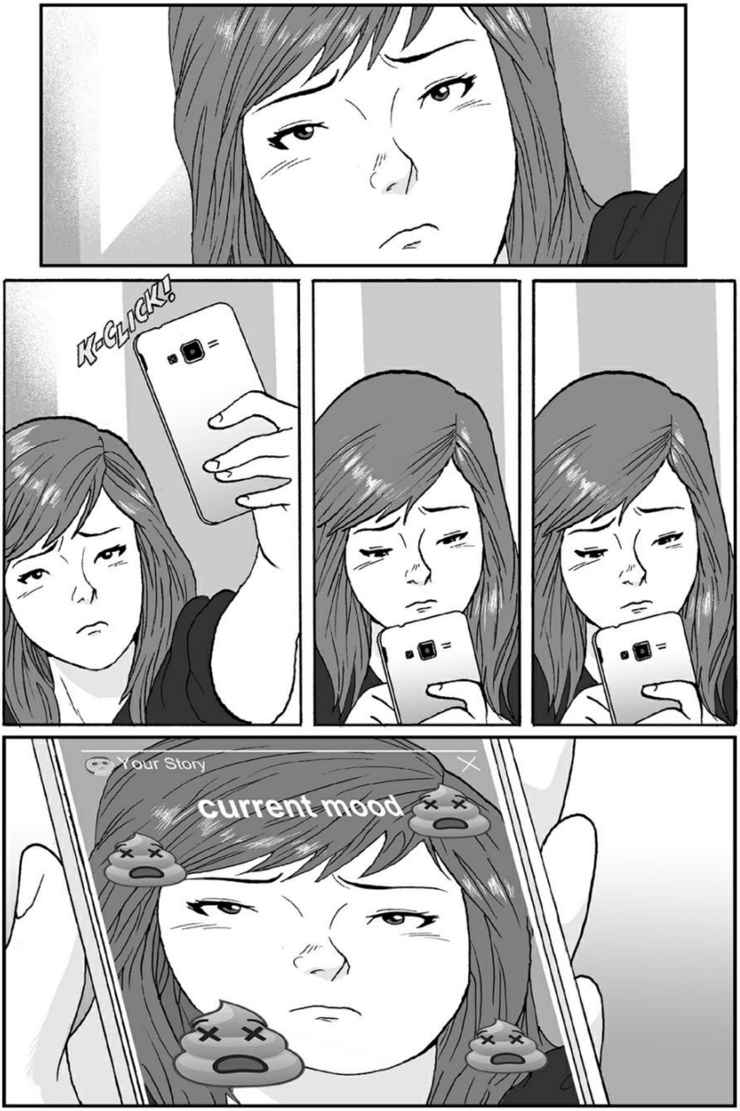

GINA, I'VE BEEN **MEANING** TO ASK YOU ALL THESE YEARS-- HOW WAS IT **LIVING** WITH YOUR LITTLE **ENGKANTO** FRIEND?
YOU MEAN **NUNO?** WHY'D YOU LIKE TO KNOW?
OH, NOTHING. IT'S JUST THAT HE WAS ONE **ENGKANTO** WHO **LOVED** OUR **WORLD** YET HE HAD TO BE TAKEN AWAY.
MEANWHILE, KUBIN IS **STAYING** HERE AND IT'S NO **PARTY** FOR HIM-- BEING ALWAYS **SICK** AND ALL.
WELL, THAT'S WHY I'M **NOT** AS **UPSET** AT NICOLE AS I **SHOULD** BE.
SHE HAS TO TAKE CARE OF A **DAUGHTER**..
..AND BE A **NURSE** TO A **HUSBAND.**
TECHNICALLY THEY'RE **NOT** MARRIED, UNLESS YOU COUNT THAT **SPIRIT CEREMONY** WE DID IN **PRIVATE.**
NICOLE HAD SO MANY **PLANS** AND **DREAMS.** THE SCHOOL, THE LUMAD ORGANIZATION, THIS EXHIBIT...
IT WAS **DOOMED** FROM THE START.
IT **WASN'T** FOR EVERYONE AND SHE **KNEW** IT.

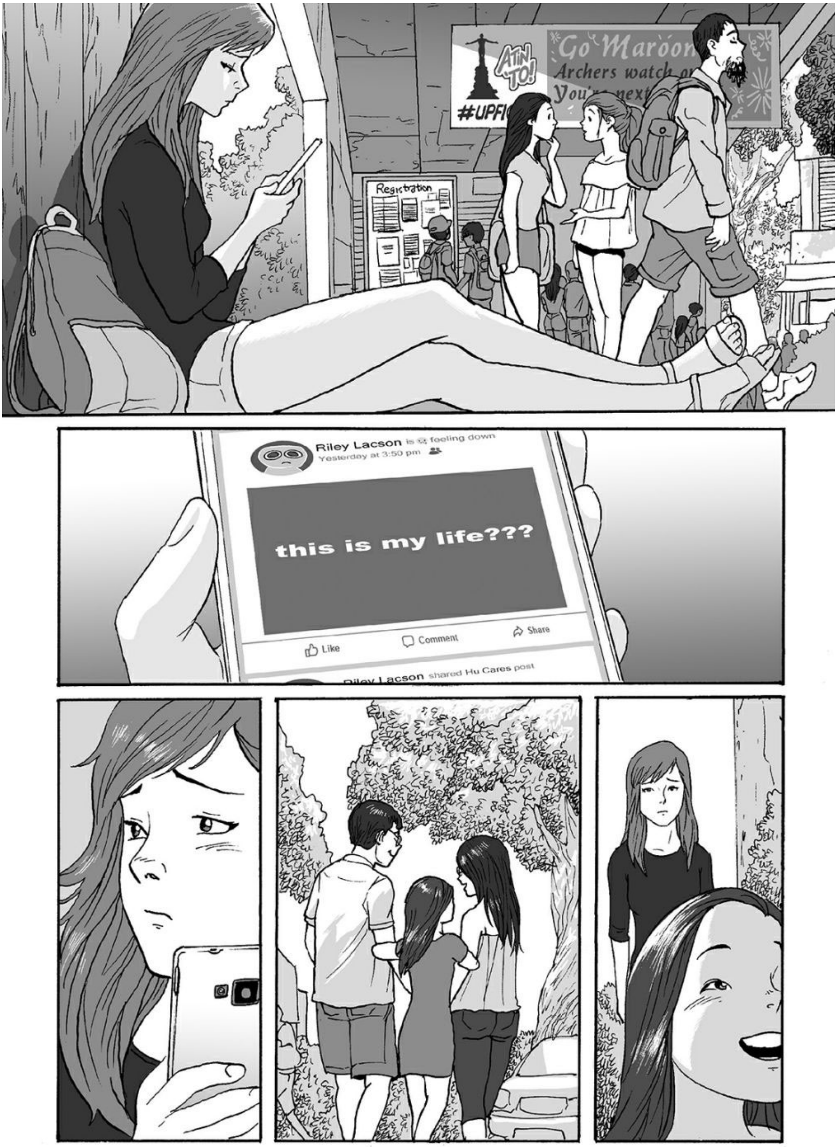

SO OUT OF THE **KINDNESS** OF OUR HEARTS, WE BOTH **STAYED** WITH HER-- AND FOR **WHAT?**
NOW I HAVE TO **LOOK** FOR A **NEW** JOB!
ALL SHE **WANTED** WAS FOR US TO BE ONE BIG HAPPY **FAMILY** AGAIN, JUST LIKE WHEN **ENKANTA** WAS HERE.
IF ONLY SHE **LISTENED** TO ALL OF US ABOUT USING THE **GOLD** AGAIN **INSTEAD** OF BEING COLD ABOUT IT.
SHE'LL **NEVER** LET US TOUCH THE **GOLD** AGAIN. SHE THINKS WE'RE ALL **CRAZY** OR IT'S **BAD KARMA** OR SOMETHING.
I SURE ENVY **REY** AND **MISHA**-- **WHEREVER** THEY ARE. AT LEAST THEY DON'T HAVE TO **DEAL** WITH ALL THIS CRAP.
I **MISS** THEM.
HOW ARE YOUR **DREAMS?**
**STILL** NORMAL.
YOU?
SAME.
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE **OTHERS.**
ALL THE THINGS WE WENT THROUGH-- ALL THOSE **QUESTS**, ONLY TO END UP LIKE **THIS.**
AND NICOLE-- FINALLY FINDING HER **PRINCE** FROM THE LAND OF **LORE**...
...AND HE CAN'T EVEN **FULLY** LIVE IN **OUR SOCIETY**.
LET ALONE HAVE AN **IDENTITY**.
WE TRIED **EVERYTHING**, OKAY? NICOLE WAS THE ONE WHO **HATED** THE IDEA OF FORGING **DOCUMENTS.**


I MEAN FOR YEARS HE'S JUST A HUSBAND WITH NO JOB...
...WHO FIXES THE HOUSE, TENDS THEIR GARDEN, TAKES CARE OF THEIR DAUGHTER...
...WHILE NICOLE HAS NO CHOICE BUT WRITE 'SINGLE MOTHER' AS HER STATUS.
Storage
WE'LL JUST HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE.
EDWARD, TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTION EARLIER...
...YEAH, IT WAS A TOUGH LIFE WITH NUNO.
BUT HE TREATED ME BADLY MAINLY BECAUSE HE WAS SCARED.
CCP
LIKE KUBIN IS.
TRAPPED IN A WORLD THEY CAN'T UNDERSTAND. WITH NO REAL HOME.
CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE IF IT WAS ME.
HEY, I REALLY NEED TO GO HOME AND GET SOME SLEEP.
CAN I HITCH A RIDE WITH YOU?
YUP.
NO REAL HOME.
JUST LIKE US.
Philippine Folklore
KUBIN
The Ibalon Warrior
"...SO YOU MEAN YOU AND DAD HAD GREAT BIG ADVENTURES?"


THAT'S **TRUE,** HONEY.
AND NOT **ONLY** ME AND YOUR FATHER...
...BUT YOUR **AUNTS** AND **UNCLES** SHARED THOSE **MAGICAL ADVENTURES** WITH US TOO.
WERE THERE MANY **MONSTERS?**
OH, **LOTS** OF THEM. THAT'S WHY YOUR FATHER AND I HAD TO BE REALLY **BRAVE** BECAUSE THEY WERE TRULY **SCARY.**
WAS THE **ONE** YOU TOLD ME ABOUT THERE TOO?
THE BIG SCARY ONE WITH A **HORSE'S HEAD?**
HA! HA!
YES, HONEY. THAT **TOO.**


DID YOU KNOW THAT YOUR FATHER IS BORN OF **ROYALTY?**
THAT PRETTY MUCH MAKES **YOU** A **PRINCESS.**
YOU CAN RULE A VAST **KINGDOM** AND **HELP** SO MANY PEOPLE.
I'M A **PRINCESS?**
REALLY, REALLY?
**WOW!**
UM..
..MY NAME..
**MARILAG...**
..WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
MAJESTIC BEAUTY.


K-CLICK!
Your Story
current mood

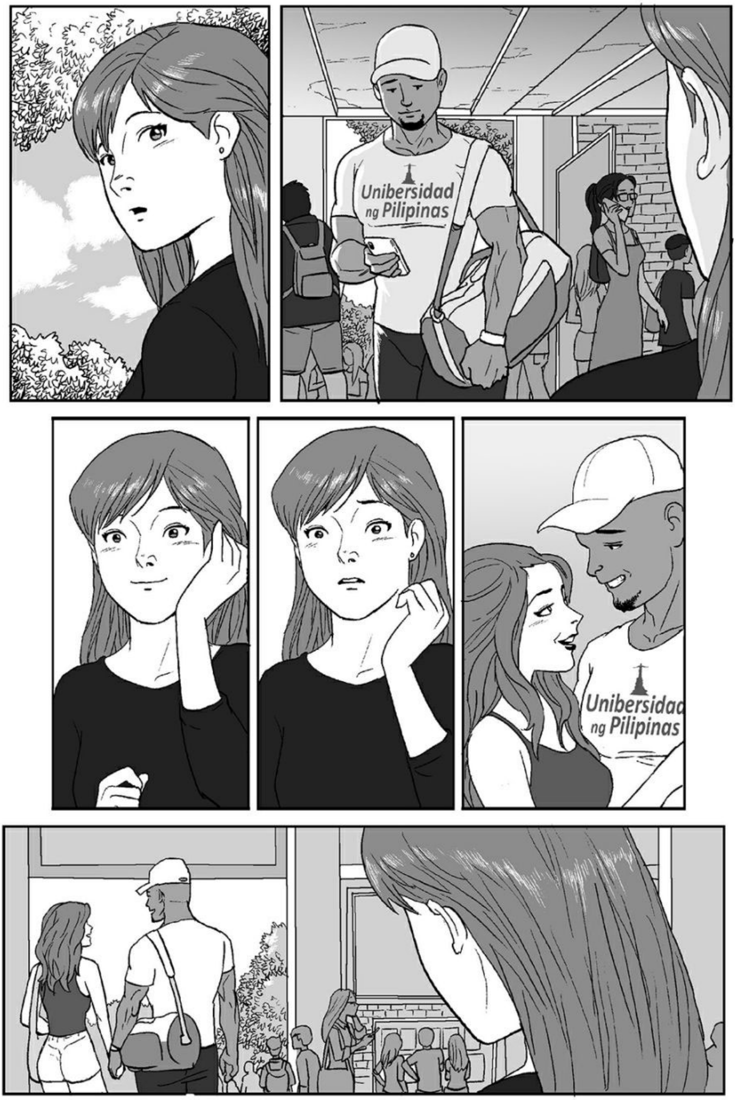

ATIN 'TO!
#UPFI
Go Maroon
Archers watch o
You're next
Registration

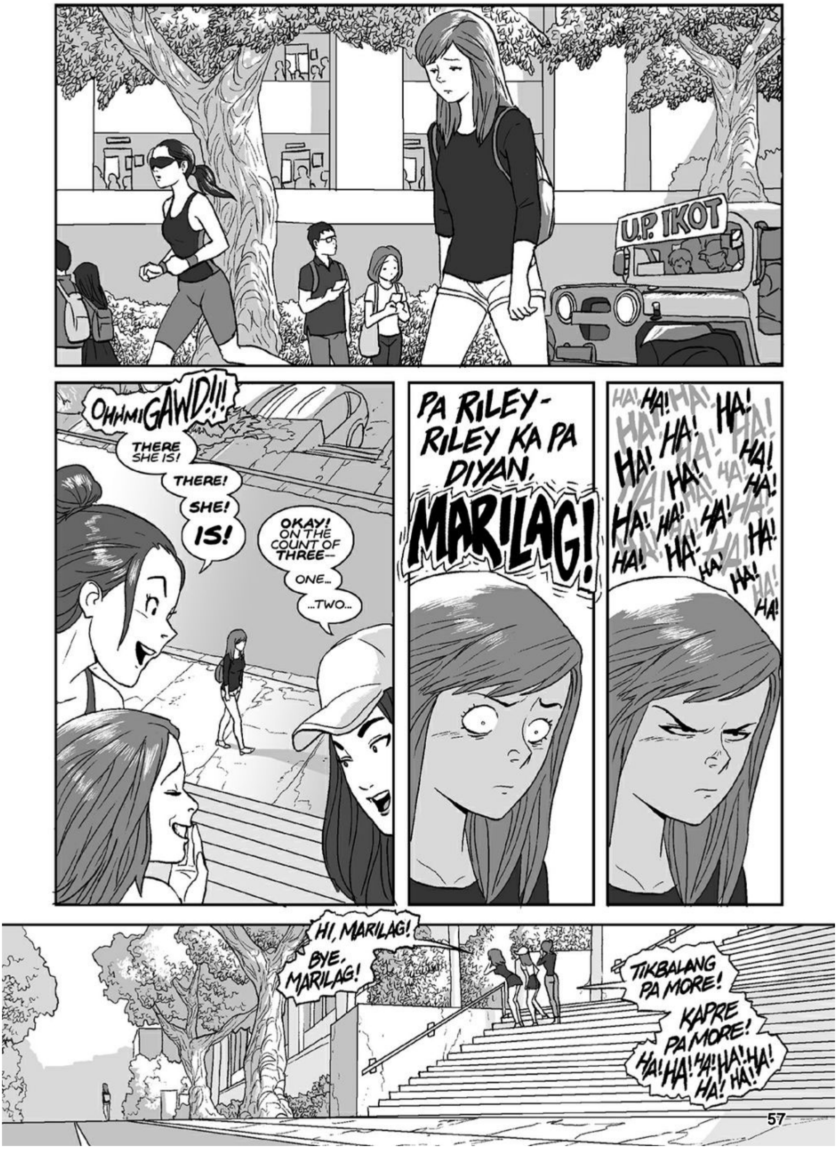
Riley Lacson is feeling down
Yesterday at 3:50 pm

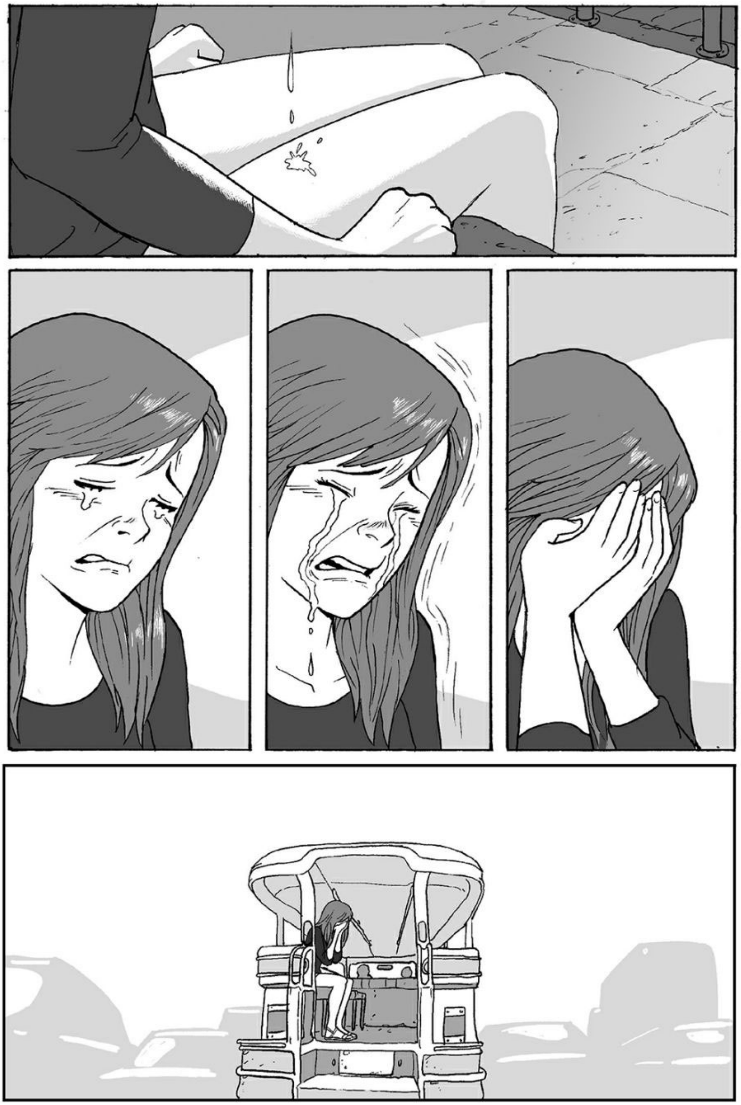
this is my life???

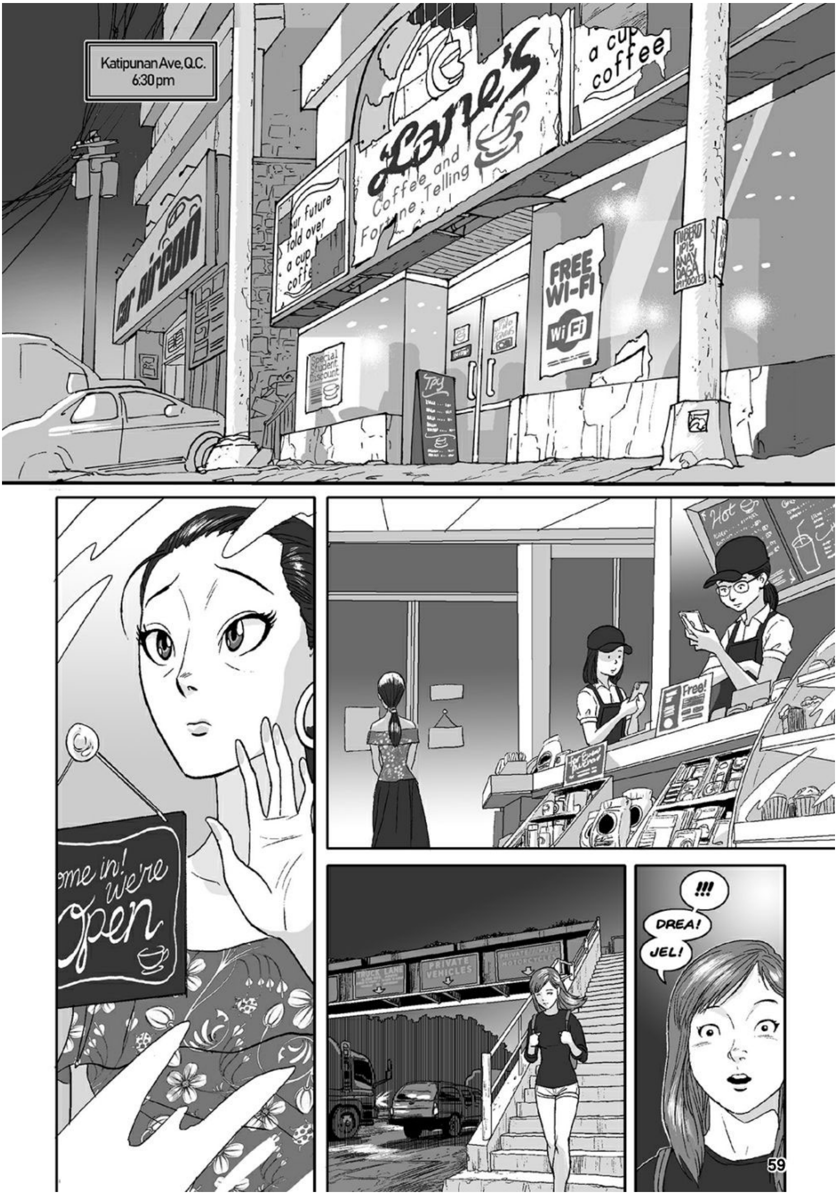
Like Comment Share

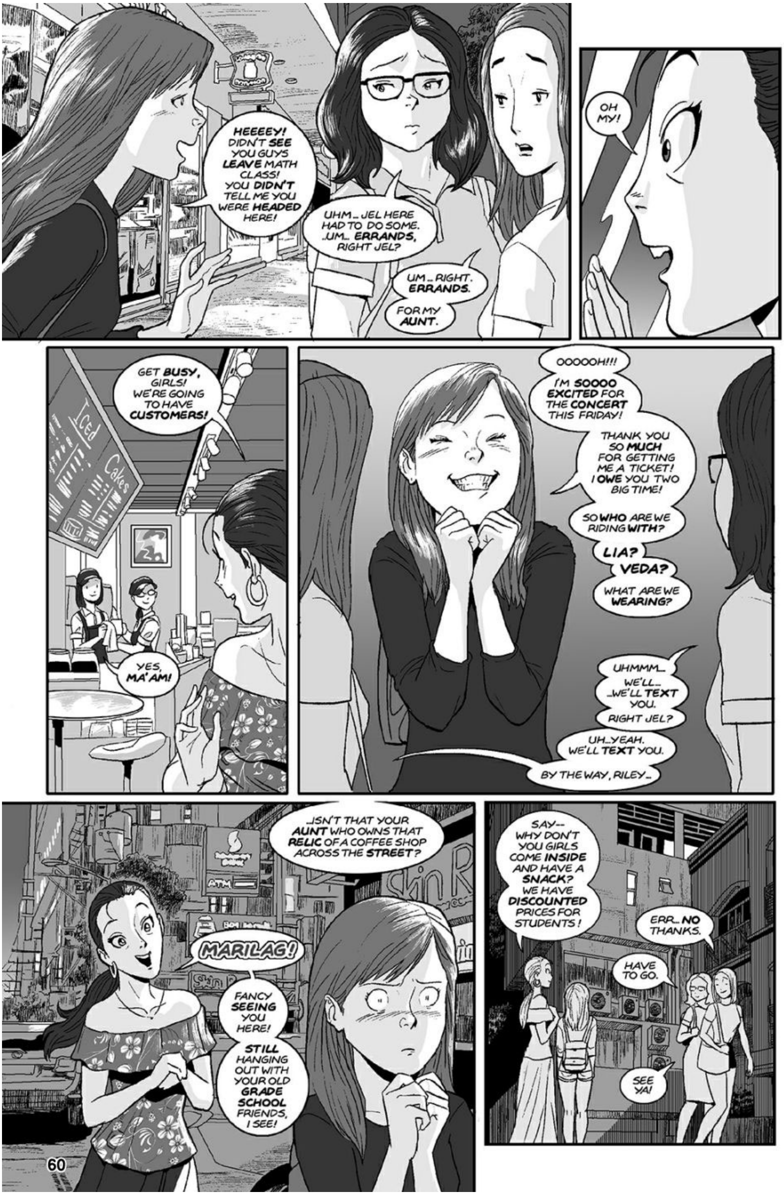
Riley Lacson shared Hu Cares post

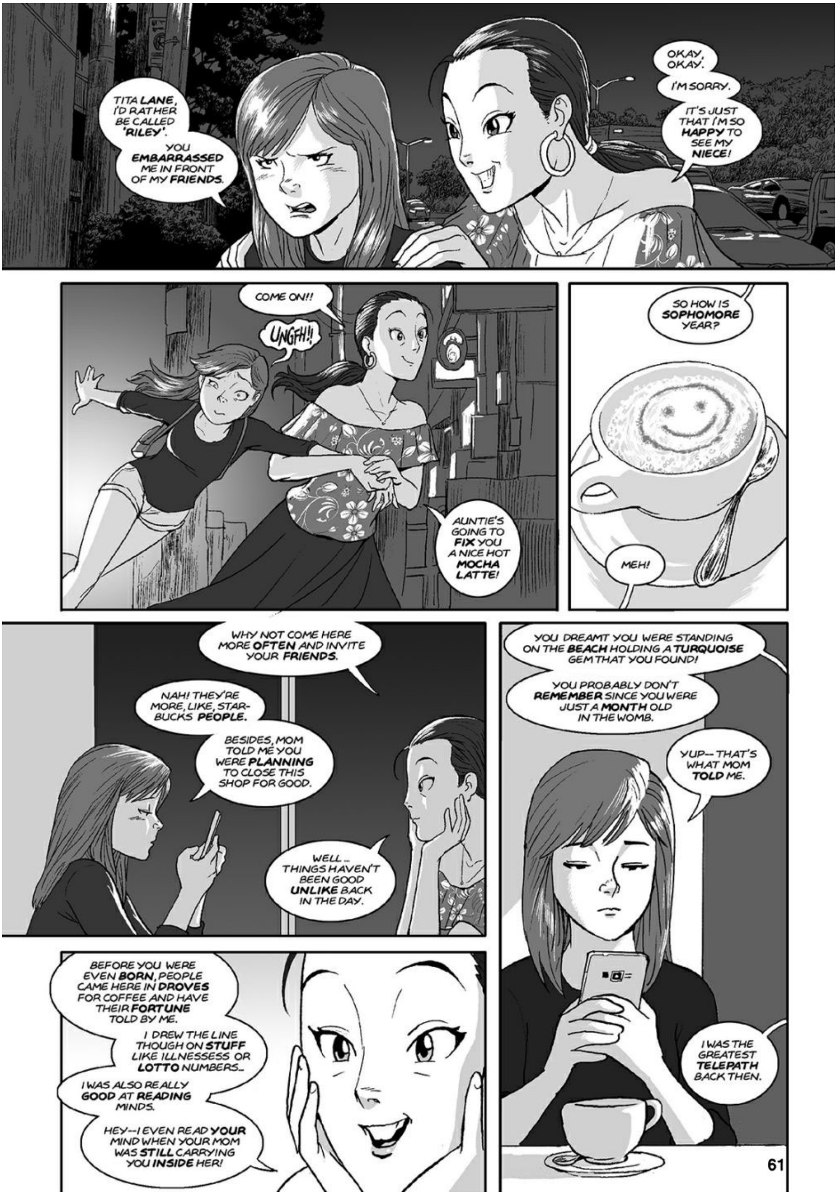

Unibersidad ng Pilipinas
Unibersidad ng Pilipinas

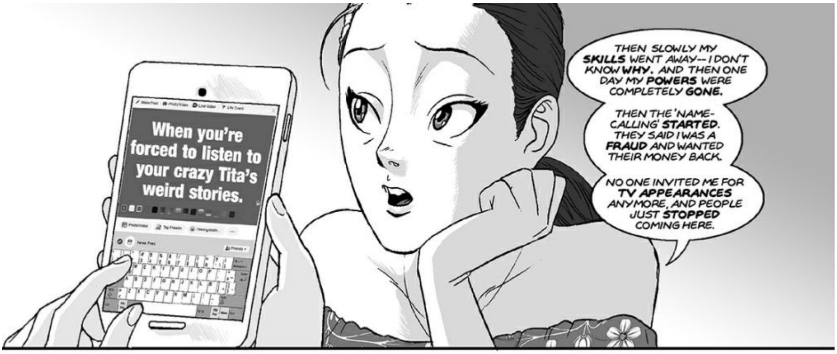

U.P. IKOT
OHMIGAWD!!!
THERE SHE IS!
THERE!
SHE!
IS!
OKAY! ON THE COUNT OF THREE--
ONE...
...TWO...
PA RILEY-RILEY KA PA DIYAN, MARILAG!
HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!
HI, MARILAG!
BYE, MARILAG!
TIKBALANG PA MORE!
KAPRE PA MORE!
HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!

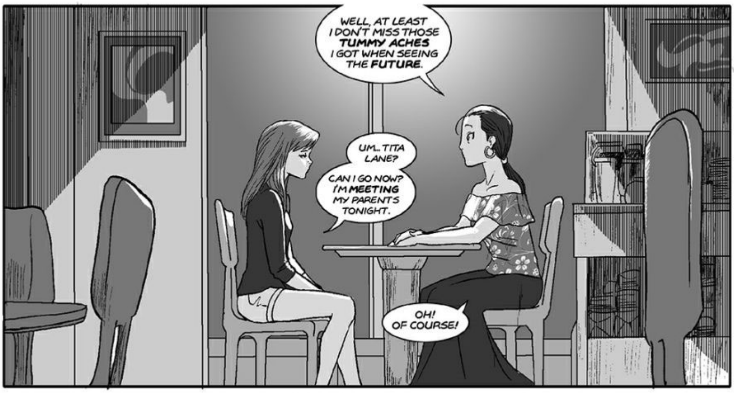


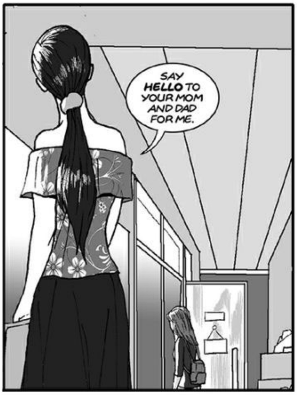

Katipunan Ave, Q.C.
6:30 pm
Lane's
Coffee and Fortune Telling
a cup coffee
ur future fold over a cup coffe
car aircon
FREE WI-FI
WiFi
Special Student Discount
TUBERO IPIS ANAY DAGA
ome in! we're open
Hot
Free!
TRUCK LANE
PRIVATE VEHICLES
PRIVATE/PUJ MOTORCYCLE
!!!
DREA!
JEL!

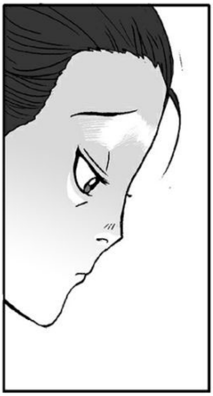

HEEEEY! DIDN'T SEE YOU GUYS LEAVE MATH CLASS! YOU DIDN'T TELL ME YOU WERE HEADED HERE!
UHM... JEL HERE HAD TO DO SOME... ...UM... ERRANDS, RIGHT JEL?
UM... RIGHT. ERRANDS.
FOR MY AUNT.
OH MY!
GET BUSY, GIRLS! WE'RE GOING TO HAVE CUSTOMERS!
Iced Cakes
YES, MA'AM!
OOOOOH!!!
I'M SOOOO EXCITED FOR THE CONCERT THIS FRIDAY!
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR GETTING ME A TICKET! I OWE YOU TWO BIG TIME!
SO WHO ARE WE RIDING WITH?
LIA?
VEDA?
WHAT ARE WE WEARING?
UHMMM... WE'LL... ...WE'LL TEXT YOU.
RIGHT JEL?
UH...YEAH. WE'LL TEXT YOU.
BY THE WAY, RILEY...
...ISN'T THAT YOUR AUNT WHO OWNS THAT RELIC OF A COFFEE SHOP ACROSS THE STREET?
ATM
Skin R
MARILAG!
FANCY SEEING YOU HERE!
STILL HANGING OUT WITH YOUR OLD GRADE SCHOOL FRIENDS, I SEE!
SAY-- WHY DON'T YOU GIRLS COME INSIDE AND HAVE A SNACK? WE HAVE DISCOUNTED PRICES FOR STUDENTS!
ERR... NO THANKS.
HAVE TO GO.
SEE YA!

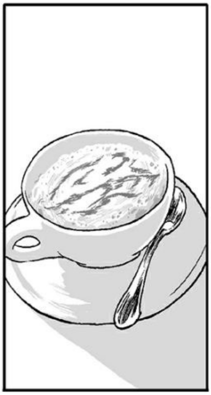

TITA **LANE**, I'D RATHER BE CALLED **'RILEY'**.
YOU **EMBARRASSED** ME IN FRONT OF MY **FRIENDS**.
OKAY, OKAY.
I'M SORRY.
IT'S JUST THAT I'M SO **HAPPY** TO SEE MY **NIECE**!
COME ON!!
UNGH!!
AUNTIE'S GOING TO **FIX** YOU A NICE HOT **MOCHA LATTE**!
SO HOW IS **SOPHOMORE** YEAR?
MEH!
WHY NOT COME HERE MORE **OFTEN** AND INVITE YOUR **FRIENDS**.
NAH! THEY'RE MORE, LIKE, STARBUCKS **PEOPLE**.
BESIDES, MOM TOLD ME YOU WERE **PLANNING** TO CLOSE THIS SHOP FOR GOOD.
WELL... THINGS HAVEN'T BEEN GOOD **UNLIKE** BACK IN THE DAY.
BEFORE YOU WERE EVEN **BORN**, PEOPLE CAME HERE IN **DROVES** FOR COFFEE AND HAVE THEIR **FORTUNE** TOLD BY ME.
I DREW THE LINE THOUGH ON **STUFF** LIKE ILLNESSESS OR **LOTTO** NUMBERS...
I WAS ALSO REALLY **GOOD** AT **READING** MINDS.
HEY--I EVEN READ **YOUR** MIND WHEN YOUR MOM WAS **STILL** CARRYING YOU **INSIDE** HER!
YOU DREAMT YOU WERE STANDING ON THE **BEACH** HOLDING A **TURQUOISE** GEM THAT YOU FOUND!
YOU PROBABLY DON'T **REMEMBER** SINCE YOU WERE JUST A **MONTH** OLD IN THE WOMB.
YUP-- THAT'S WHAT MOM **TOLD** ME.
I WAS THE GREATEST **TELEPATH** BACK THEN.

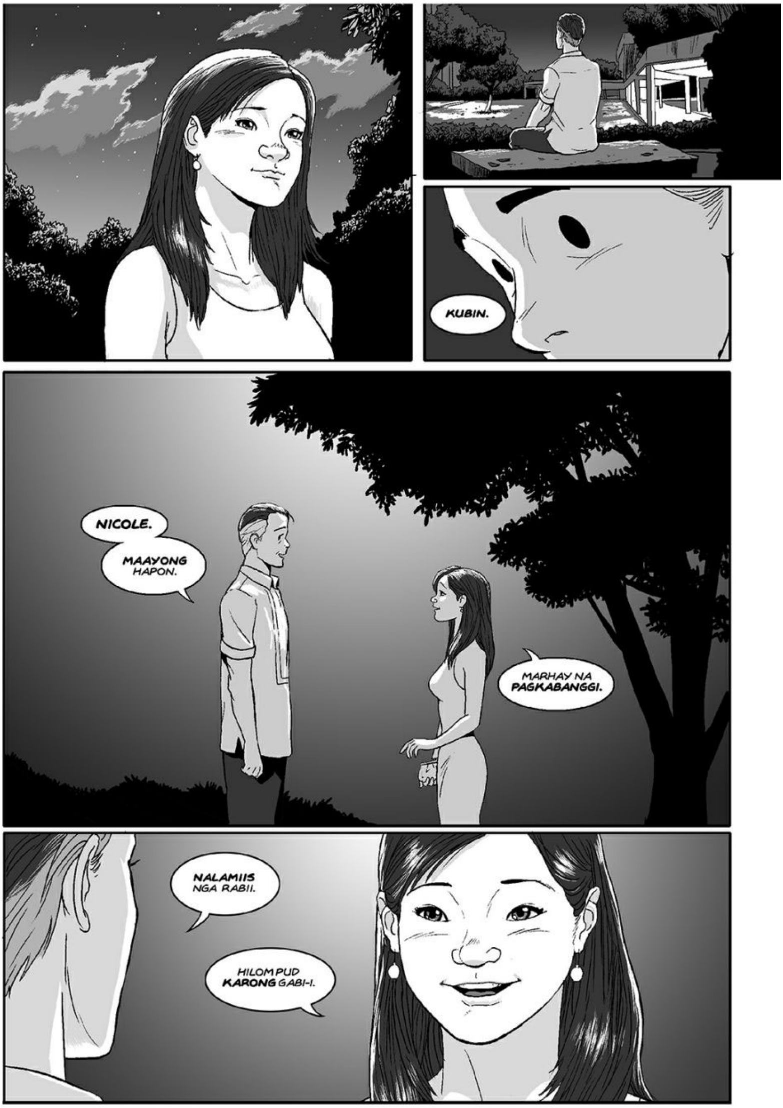

When you're forced to listen to your crazy Tita's weird stories.
THEN SLOWLY MY **SKILLS** WENT *AWAY*-- I DON'T KNOW **WHY.** AND THEN ONE DAY MY **POWERS** WERE COMPLETELY **GONE.**
THEN THE 'NAME-CALLING' **STARTED**. THEY SAID I WAS A **FRAUD** AND WANTED THEIR MONEY BACK.
NO ONE INVITED ME FOR **TV APPEARANCES** ANYMORE, AND PEOPLE JUST **STOPPED** COMING HERE.

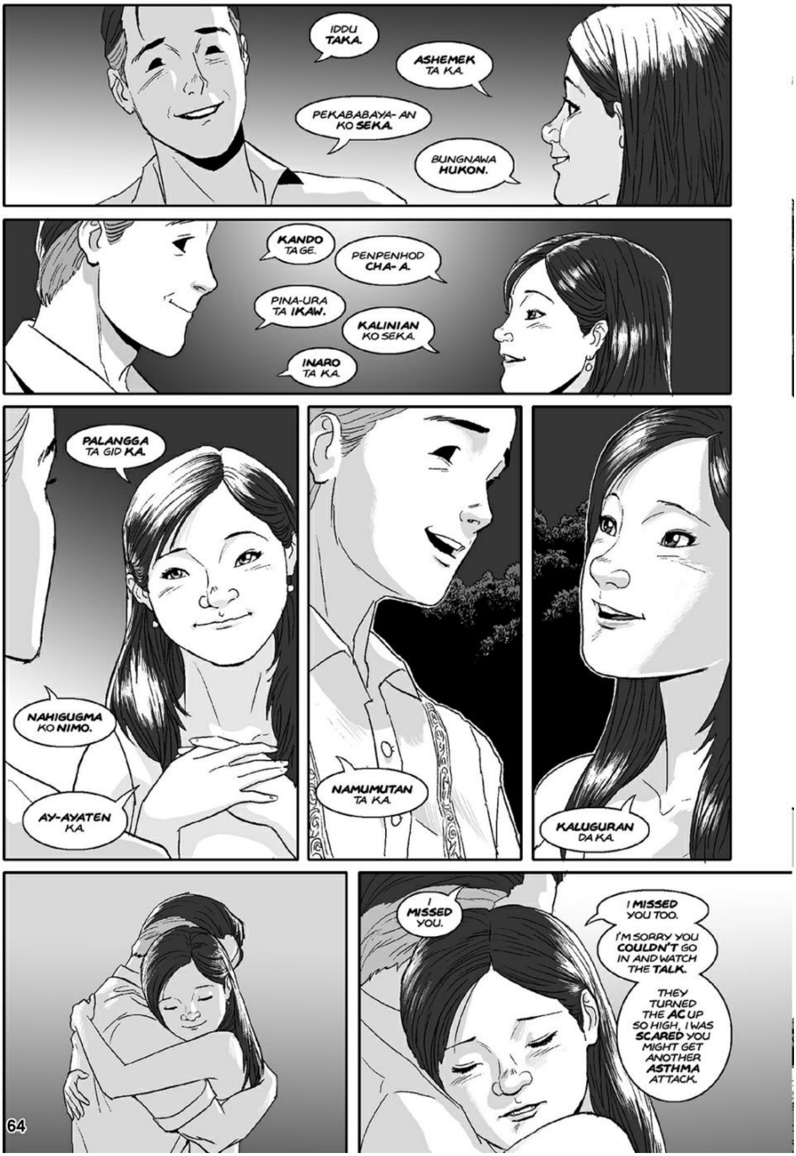

WELL, AT LEAST I DON'T MISS THOSE **TUMMY ACHES** I GOT WHEN SEEING THE **FUTURE**.
UM... TITA LANE?
CAN I GO NOW? I'M **MEETING** MY PARENTS TONIGHT.
OH! OF COURSE!

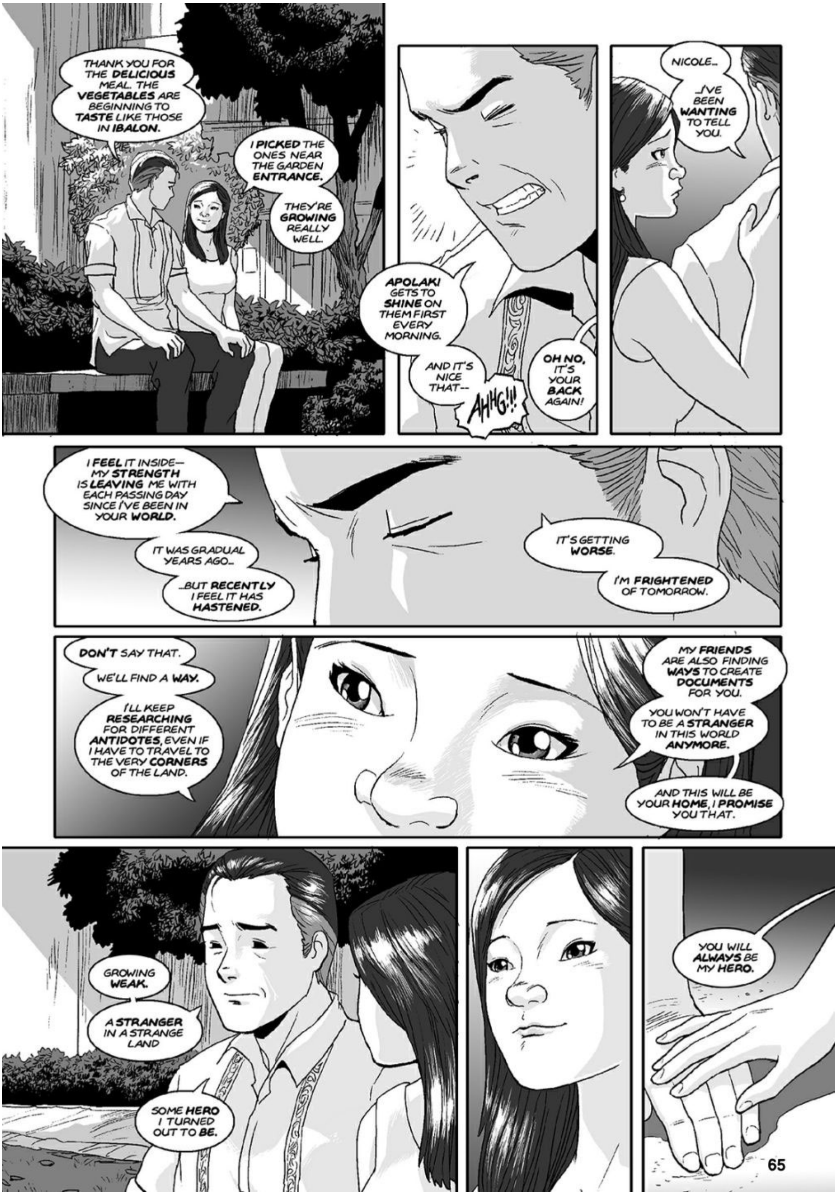

SAY **HELLO** TO YOUR MOM AND DAD FOR ME.

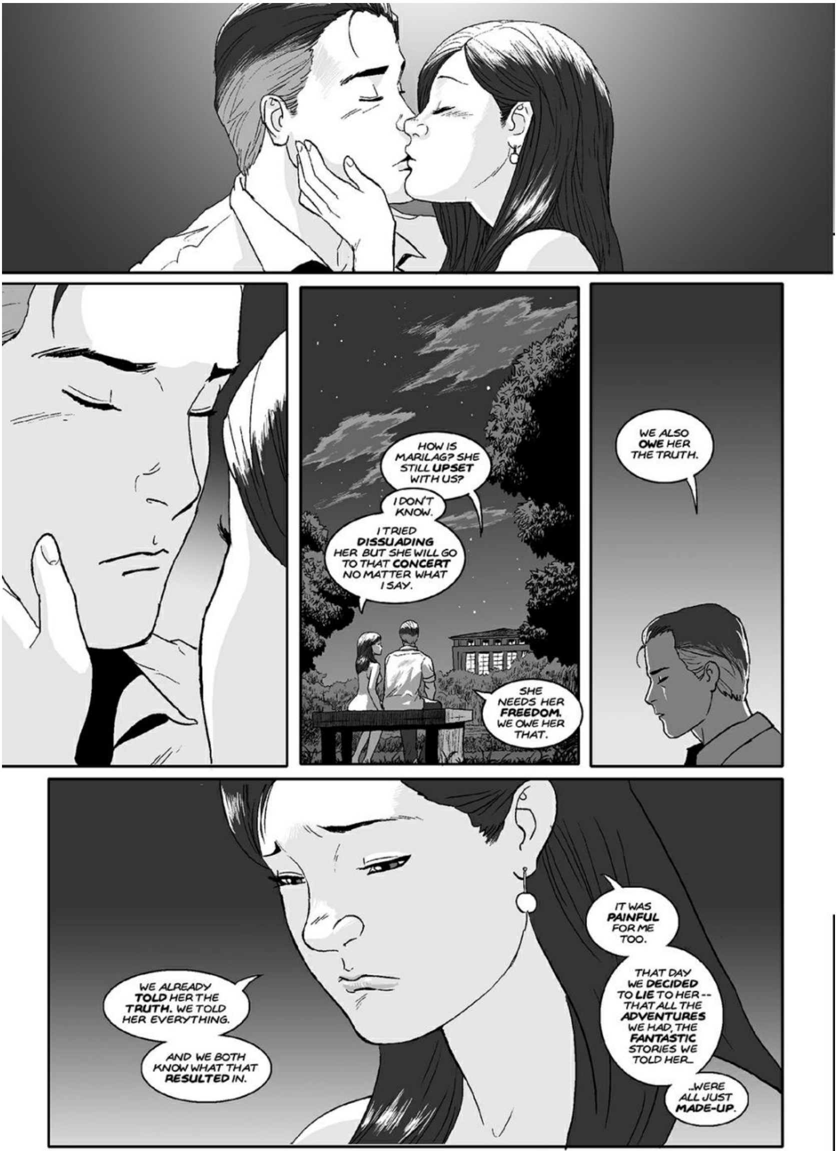


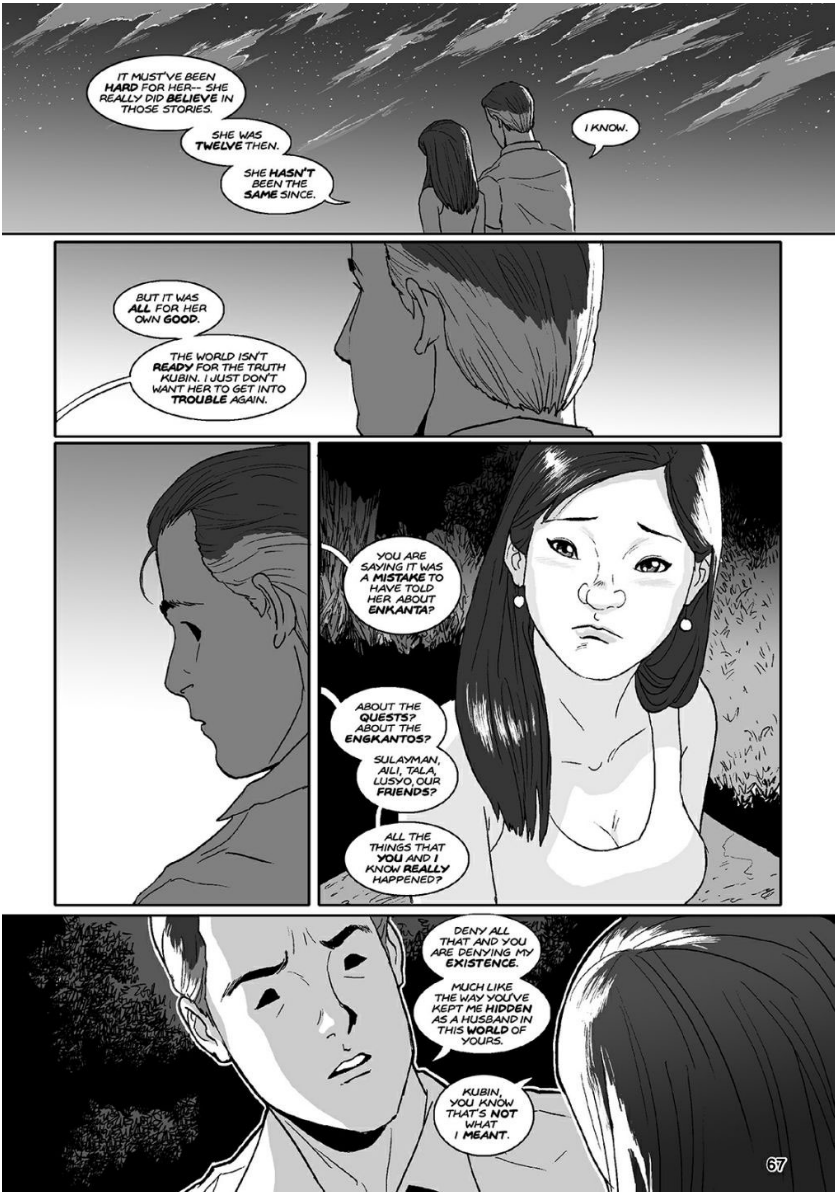


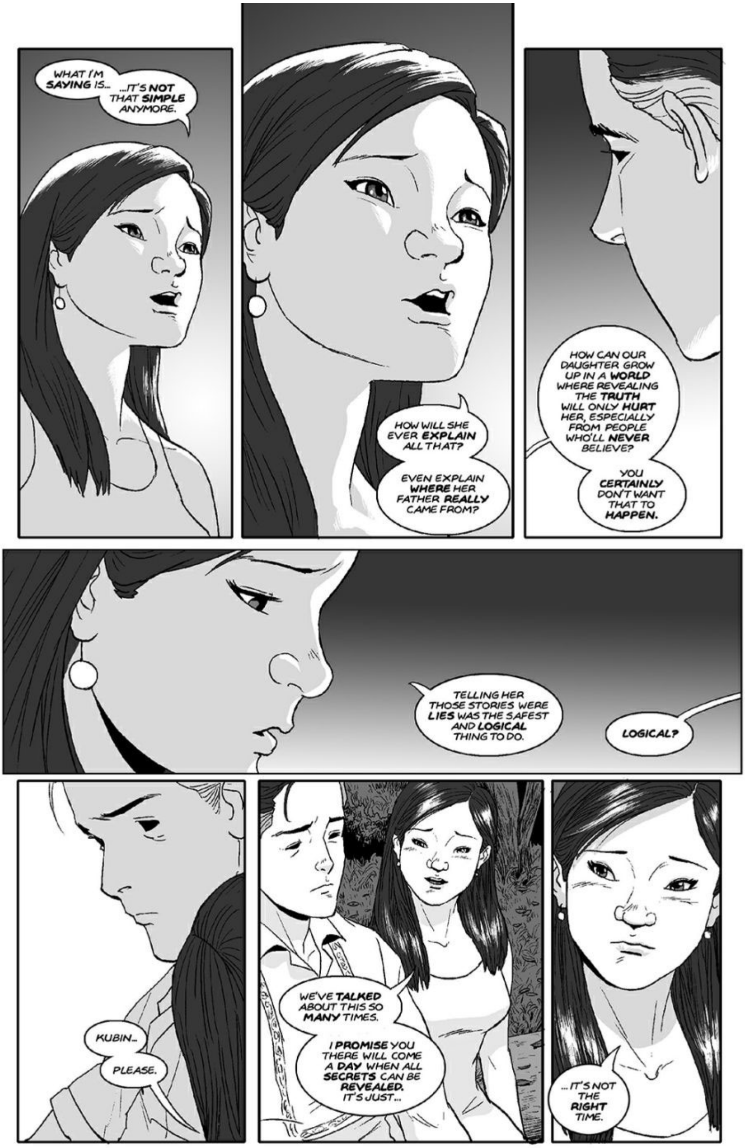

KUBIN.
NICOLE.
MAAYONG HAPON.
MARHAY NA PAGKABANGGI.
NALAMIIS NGA RABII.
HILOM PUD KARONG GABI-I.

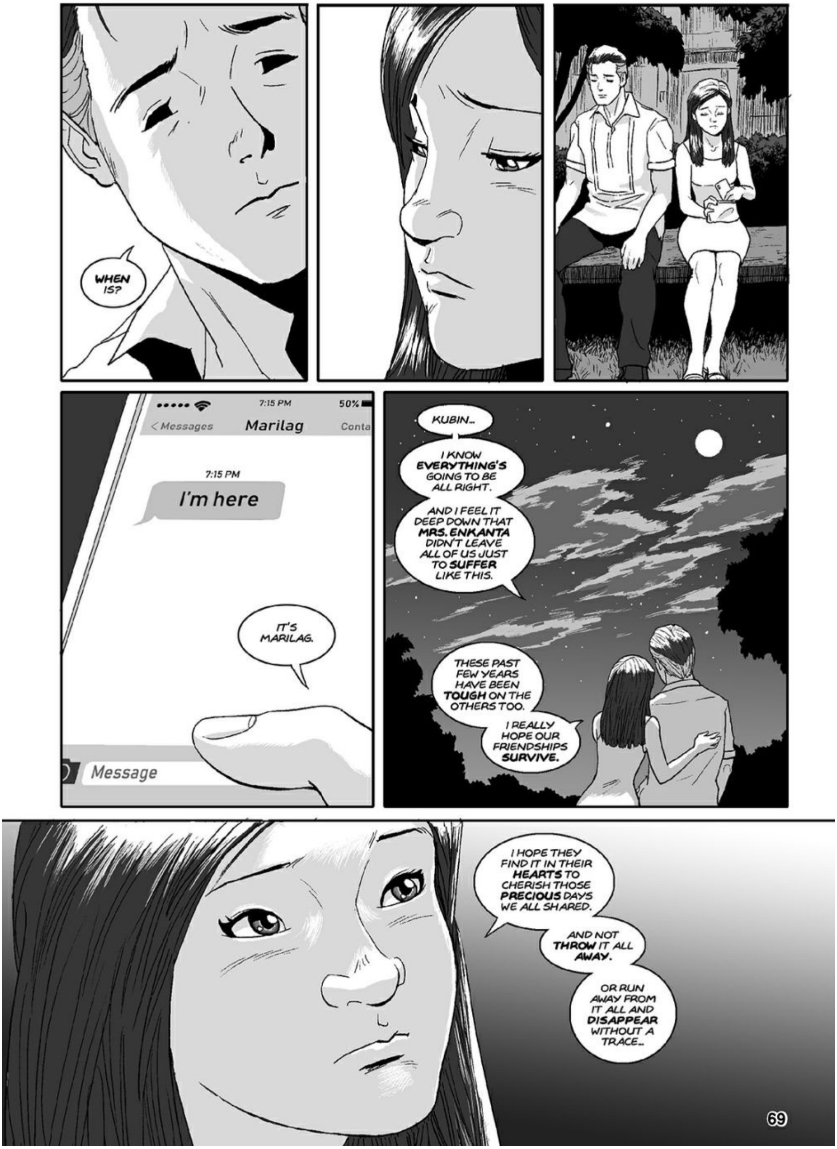

IDDU TAKA.
ASHEMEK TA KA.
PEKABABAYA-AN KO SEKA.
BUNGNAWA HUKON.
KANDO TA GE.
PENPENHOD CHA-A.
PINA-URA TA IKAW.
KALINIAN KO SEKA.
INARO TA KA.
PALANGGA TA GID KA.
NAHIGUGMA KO NIMO.
AY-AYATEN KA.
NAMUMUTAN TA KA.
KALUGURAN DA KA.
I MISSED YOU.
I MISSED YOU TOO.
I'M SORRY YOU COULDN'T GO IN AND WATCH THE TALK.
THEY TURNED THE AC UP SO HIGH, I WAS SCARED YOU MIGHT GET ANOTHER ASTHMA ATTACK.

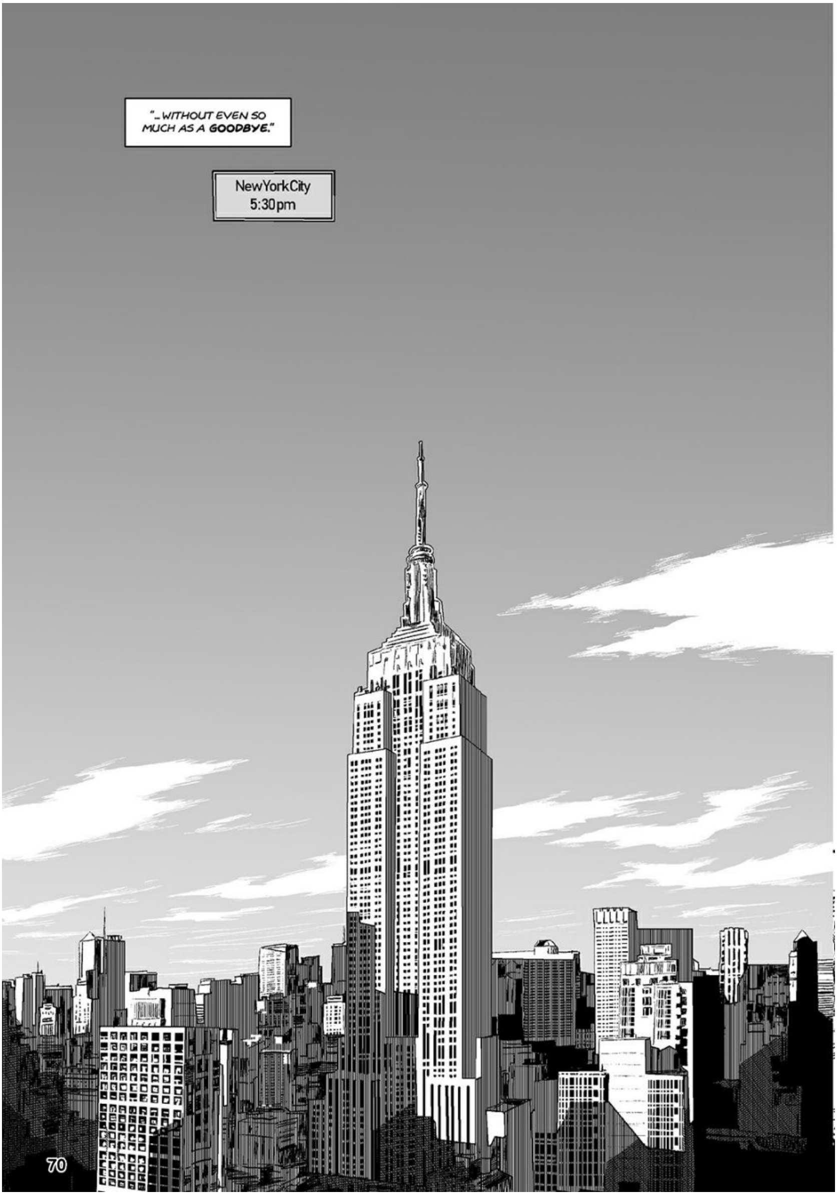

THANK YOU FOR THE DELICIOUS MEAL. THE VEGETABLES ARE BEGINNING TO TASTE LIKE THOSE IN IBALON.
I PICKED THE ONES NEAR THE GARDEN ENTRANCE.
THEY'RE GROWING REALLY WELL.
APOLAKI GETS TO SHINE ON THEM FIRST EVERY MORNING.
AND IT'S NICE THAT--
AHHG!!!
OH NO, IT'S YOUR BACK AGAIN!
NICOLE...
...I'VE BEEN WANTING TO TELL YOU.
I FEEL IT INSIDE— MY STRENGTH IS LEAVING ME WITH EACH PASSING DAY SINCE I'VE BEEN IN YOUR WORLD.
IT WAS GRADUAL YEARS AGO...
...BUT RECENTLY I FEEL IT HAS HASTENED.
IT'S GETTING WORSE.
I'M FRIGHTENED OF TOMORROW.
DON'T SAY THAT.
WE'LL FIND A WAY.
I'LL KEEP RESEARCHING FOR DIFFERENT ANTIDOTES, EVEN IF I HAVE TO TRAVEL TO THE VERY CORNERS OF THE LAND.
MY FRIENDS ARE ALSO FINDING WAYS TO CREATE DOCUMENTS FOR YOU.
YOU WON'T HAVE TO BE A STRANGER IN THIS WORLD ANYMORE.
AND THIS WILL BE YOUR HOME, I PROMISE YOU THAT.
GROWING WEAK.
A STRANGER IN A STRANGE LAND
SOME HERO I TURNED OUT TO BE.
YOU WILL ALWAYS BE MY HERO.

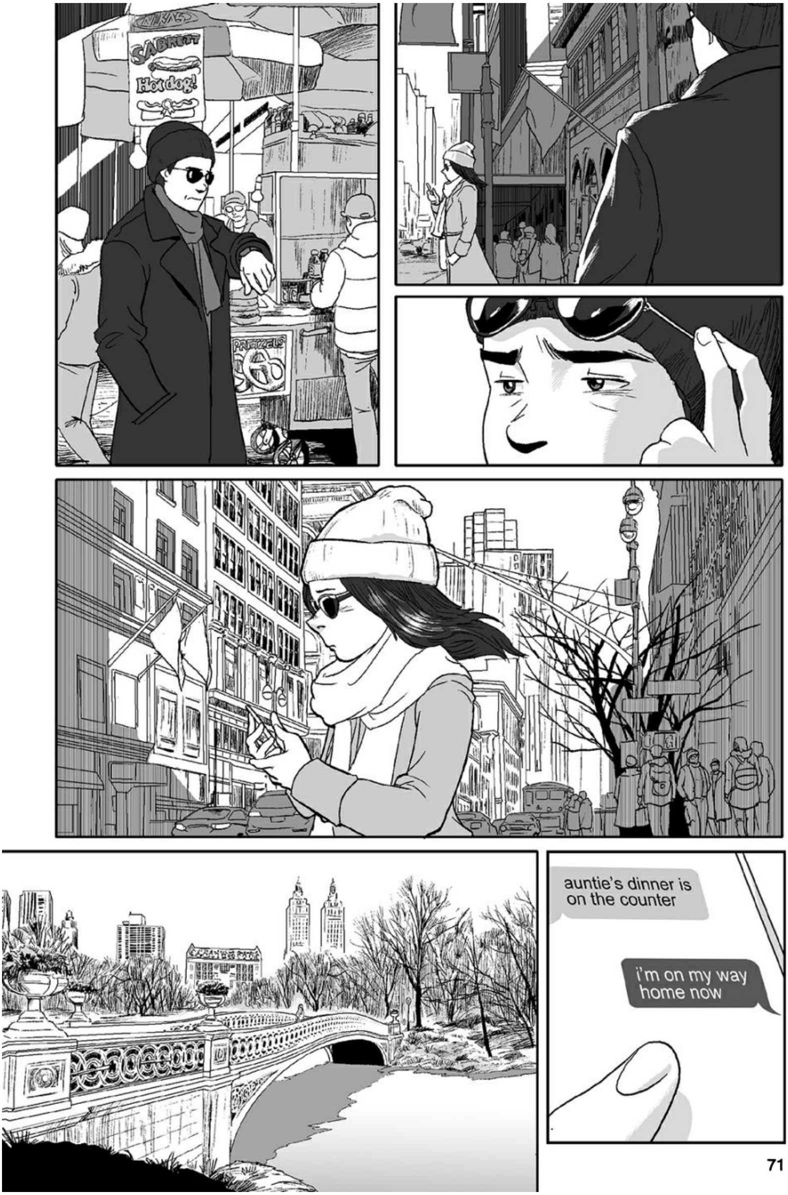

HOW IS MARILAG? SHE STILL **UPSET** WITH US?
I DON'T KNOW.
I TRIED **DISSUADING** HER BUT SHE WILL GO TO THAT **CONCERT** NO MATTER WHAT I SAY.
SHE NEEDS HER **FREEDOM.** WE OWE HER THAT.
WE ALSO **OWE** HER THE TRUTH.
WE ALREADY **TOLD** HER THE **TRUTH.** WE TOLD HER EVERYTHING.
AND WE BOTH KNOW WHAT THAT **RESULTED** IN.
IT WAS **PAINFUL** FOR ME TOO.
THAT DAY WE **DECIDED** TO **LIE** TO HER -- THAT ALL THE **ADVENTURES** WE HAD, THE **FANTASTIC** STORIES WE TOLD HER...
...WERE ALL JUST **MADE-UP**.


IT MUST'VE BEEN **HARD** FOR HER-- SHE REALLY DID **BELIEVE** IN THOSE STORIES.
SHE WAS **TWELVE** THEN.
SHE **HASN'T** BEEN THE **SAME** SINCE.
I KNOW.
BUT IT WAS **ALL** FOR HER OWN **GOOD**.
THE WORLD ISN'T **READY** FOR THE TRUTH KUBIN. I JUST DON'T WANT HER TO GET INTO **TROUBLE** AGAIN.
YOU ARE SAYING IT WAS A **MISTAKE** TO HAVE TOLD HER ABOUT **ENKANTA**?
ABOUT THE **QUESTS**? ABOUT THE **ENGKANTOS**?
SULAYMAN, AILI, TALA, LUSYO, OUR **FRIENDS**?
ALL THE THINGS THAT **YOU** AND **I** KNOW **REALLY** HAPPENED?
DENY **ALL** THAT AND YOU ARE DENYING MY **EXISTENCE**.
MUCH LIKE THE WAY YOU'VE KEPT ME **HIDDEN** AS A HUSBAND IN THIS **WORLD** OF YOURS.
KUBIN, YOU KNOW THAT'S **NOT** WHAT **I MEANT**.


WHAT I'M **SAYING** IS...
...IT'S **NOT** THAT **SIMPLE** ANYMORE.
HOW **WILL** SHE EVER **EXPLAIN** ALL THAT?
EVEN EXPLAIN **WHERE** HER FATHER **REALLY** CAME FROM?
HOW CAN OUR DAUGHTER GROW UP IN A **WORLD** WHERE REVEALING THE **TRUTH** WILL ONLY **HURT** HER, ESPECIALLY FROM PEOPLE WHO'LL **NEVER** BELIEVE?
YOU **CERTAINLY** DON'T WANT THAT TO **HAPPEN.**
TELLING HER THOSE STORIES WERE **LIES** WAS THE SAFEST AND **LOGICAL** THING TO DO.
**LOGICAL?**
KUBIN...
PLEASE.
WE'VE **TALKED** ABOUT THIS SO **MANY** TIMES.
**I PROMISE** YOU THERE WILL COME A **DAY** WHEN ALL **SECRETS** CAN BE **REVEALED.** IT'S JUST...
...IT'S NOT THE **RIGHT** TIME.

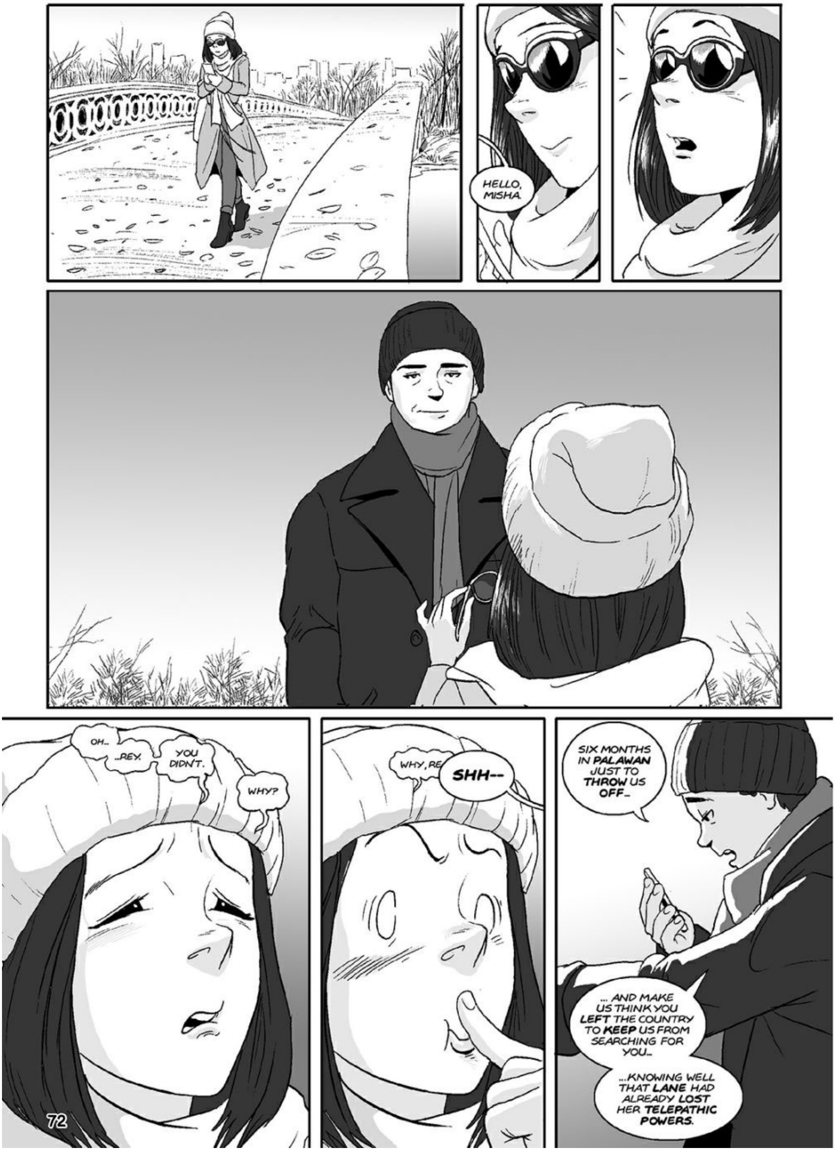

WHEN IS?
••••• 7:15 PM 50%
< Messages Marilag Conta
7:15 PM
I'm here
IT'S MARILAG.
Message
KUBIN...
I KNOW EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT.
AND I FEEL IT DEEP DOWN THAT MRS. ENKANTA DIDN'T LEAVE ALL OF US JUST TO SUFFER LIKE THIS.
THESE PAST FEW YEARS HAVE BEEN TOUGH ON THE OTHERS TOO.
I REALLY HOPE OUR FRIENDSHIPS SURVIVE.
I HOPE THEY FIND IT IN THEIR HEARTS TO CHERISH THOSE PRECIOUS DAYS WE ALL SHARED.
AND NOT THROW IT ALL AWAY.
OR RUN AWAY FROM IT ALL AND DISAPPEAR WITHOUT A TRACE...

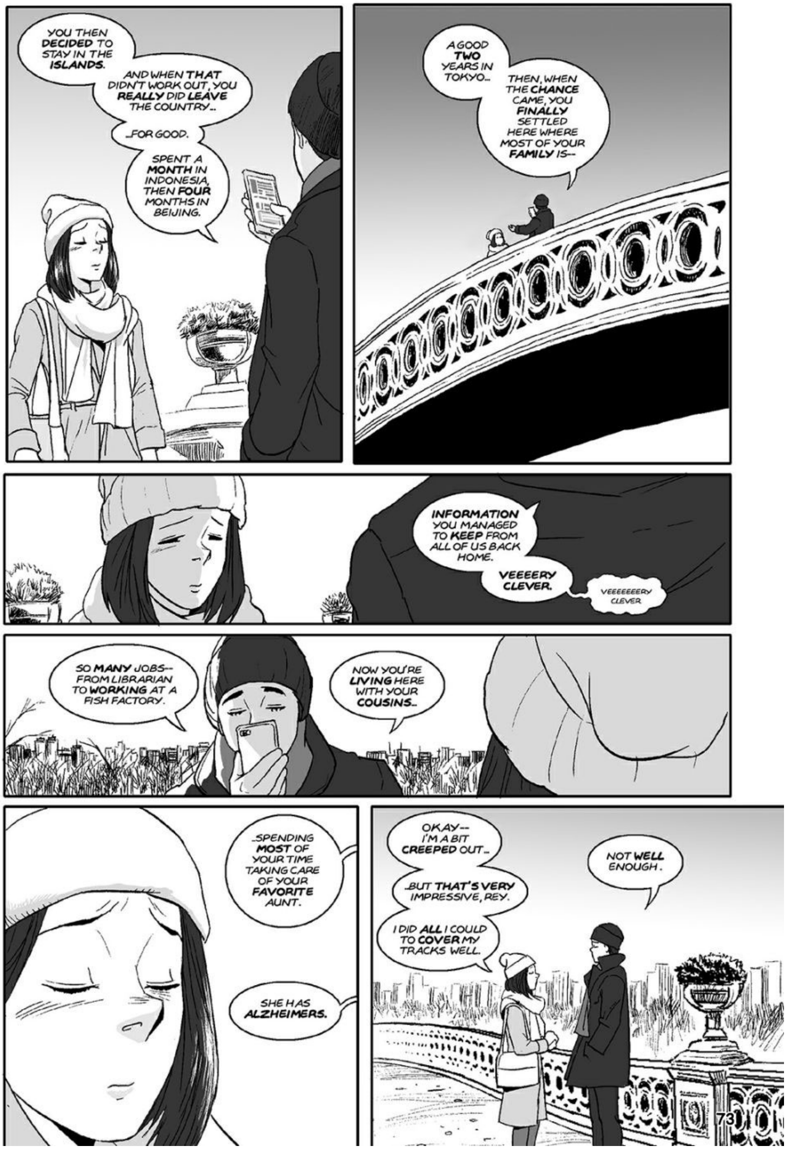

"... WITHOUT EVEN SO MUCH AS A **GOODBYE.**"
New York City 5:30 pm

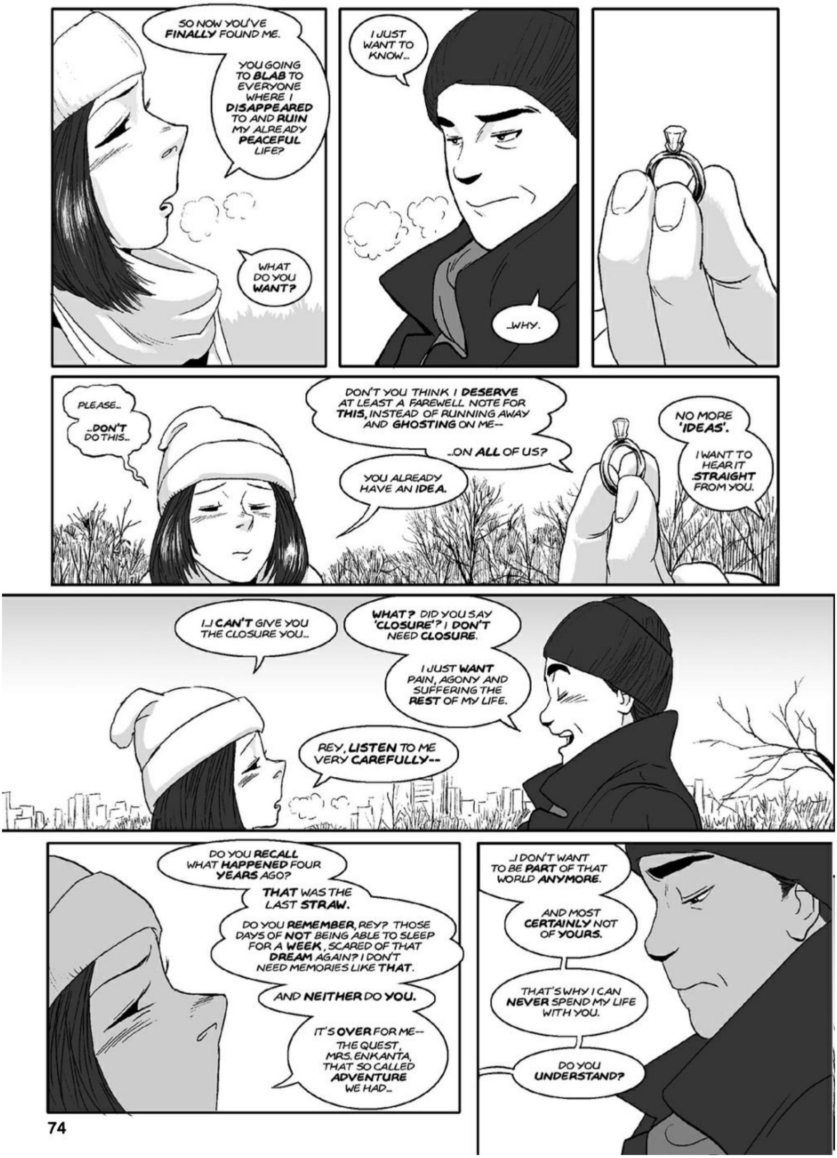

SABRETT
Hot dog!
PRETZELS

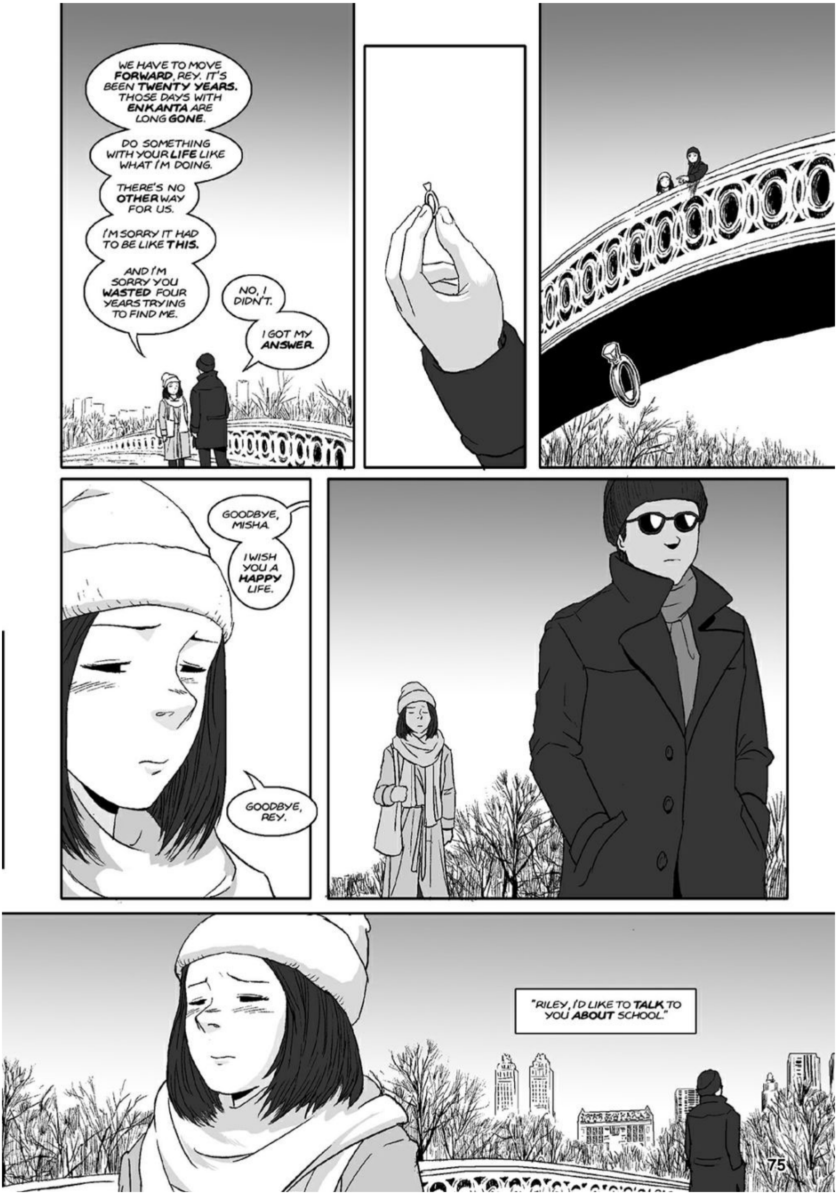
auntie's dinner is on the counter

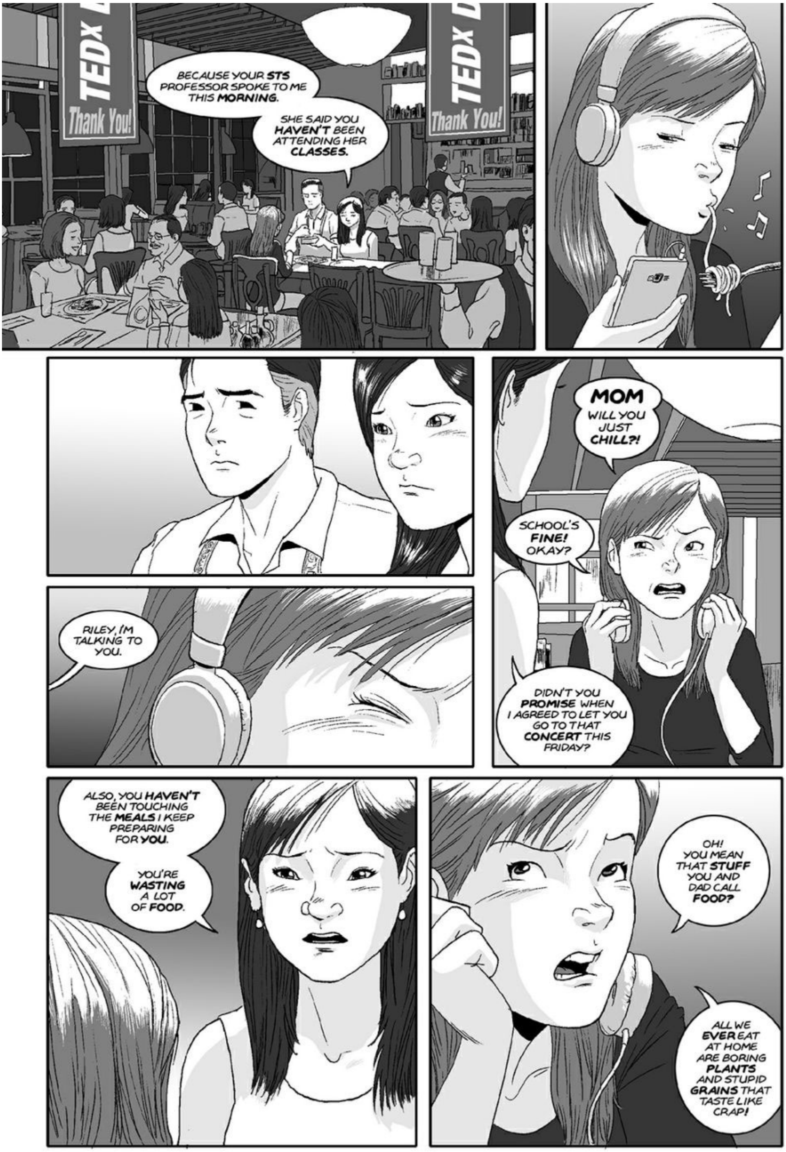
i'm on my way home now

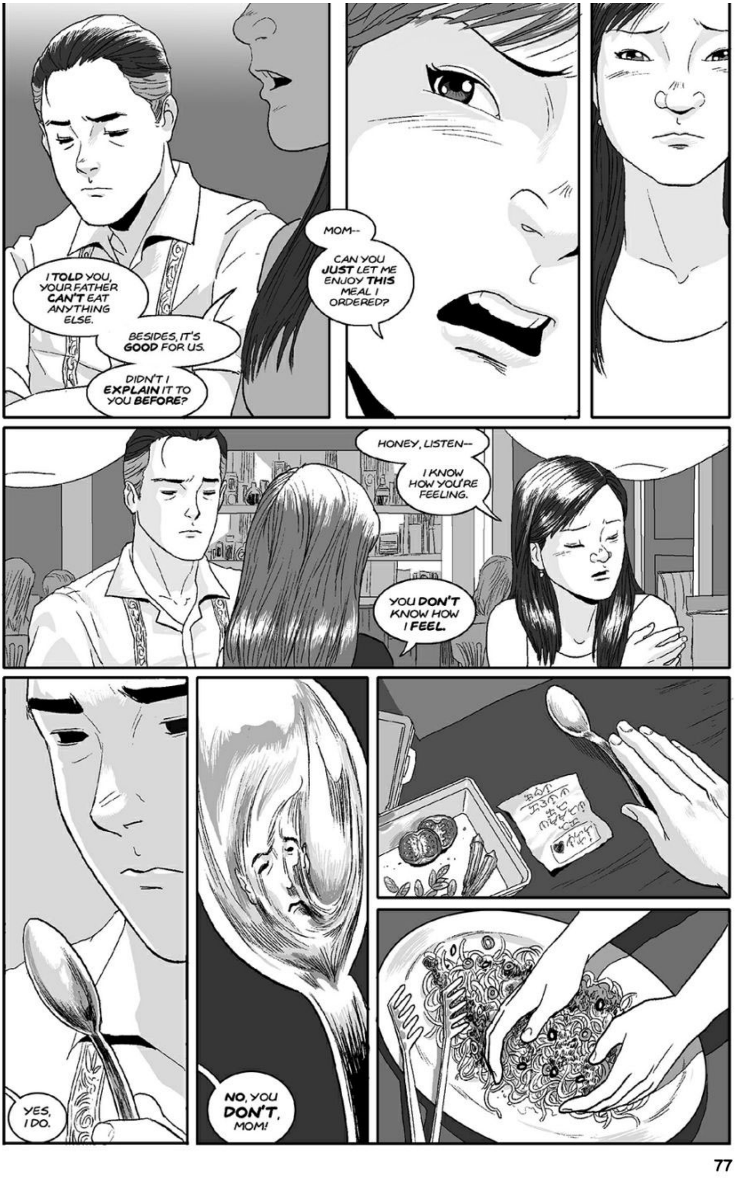

HELLO, MISHA.
OH..
..REY.
YOU DIDN'T.
WHY?
WHY, RE
SHH--
SIX MONTHS IN PALAWAN JUST TO THROW US OFF..
... AND MAKE US THINK YOU LEFT THE COUNTRY TO KEEP US FROM SEARCHING FOR YOU..
...KNOWING WELL THAT LANE HAD ALREADY LOST HER TELEPATHIC POWERS.

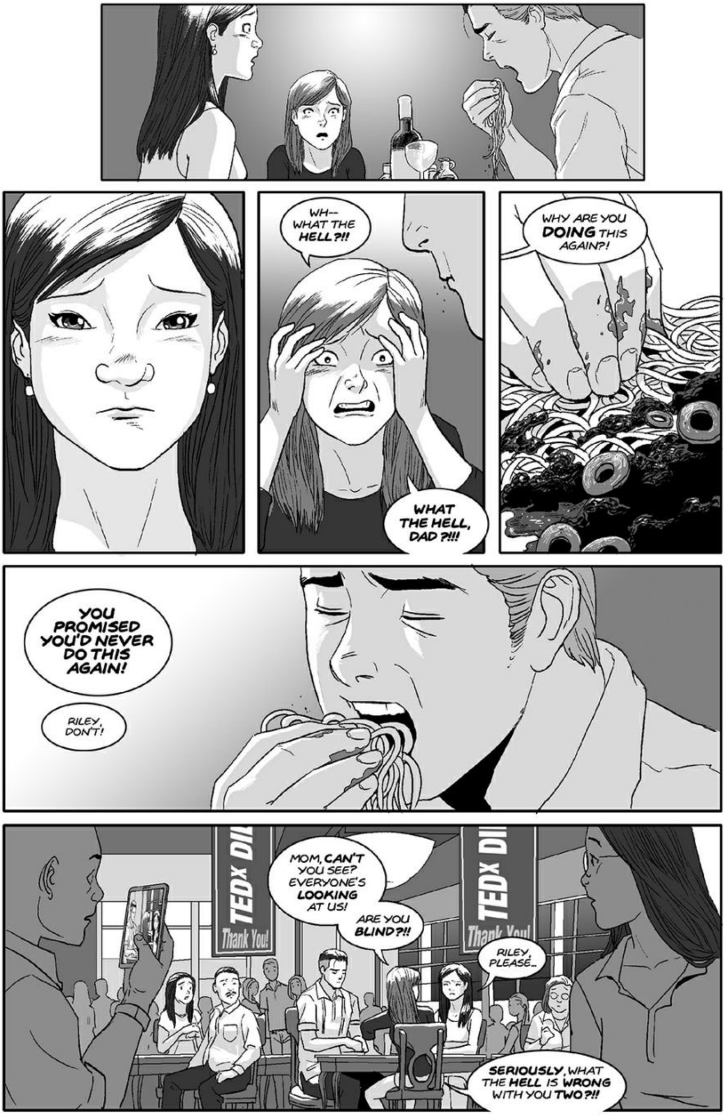

YOU THEN DECIDED TO STAY IN THE ISLANDS.
AND WHEN THAT DIDN'T WORK OUT, YOU REALLY DID LEAVE THE COUNTRY…
…FOR GOOD.
SPENT A MONTH IN INDONESIA, THEN FOUR MONTHS IN BEIJING.
A GOOD TWO YEARS IN TOKYO…
THEN, WHEN THE CHANCE CAME, YOU FINALLY SETTLED HERE WHERE MOST OF YOUR FAMILY IS--
INFORMATION YOU MANAGED TO KEEP FROM ALL OF US BACK HOME.
VEEEERY CLEVER.
VEEEEEEEERY CLEVER
SO MANY JOBS-- FROM LIBRARIAN TO WORKING AT A FISH FACTORY.
NOW YOU'RE LIVING HERE WITH YOUR COUSINS…
…SPENDING MOST OF YOUR TIME TAKING CARE OF YOUR FAVORITE AUNT.
SHE HAS ALZHEIMERS.
OKAY-- I'M A BIT CREEPED OUT…
…BUT THAT'S VERY IMPRESSIVE, REY.
I DID ALL I COULD TO COVER MY TRACKS WELL.
NOT WELL ENOUGH.

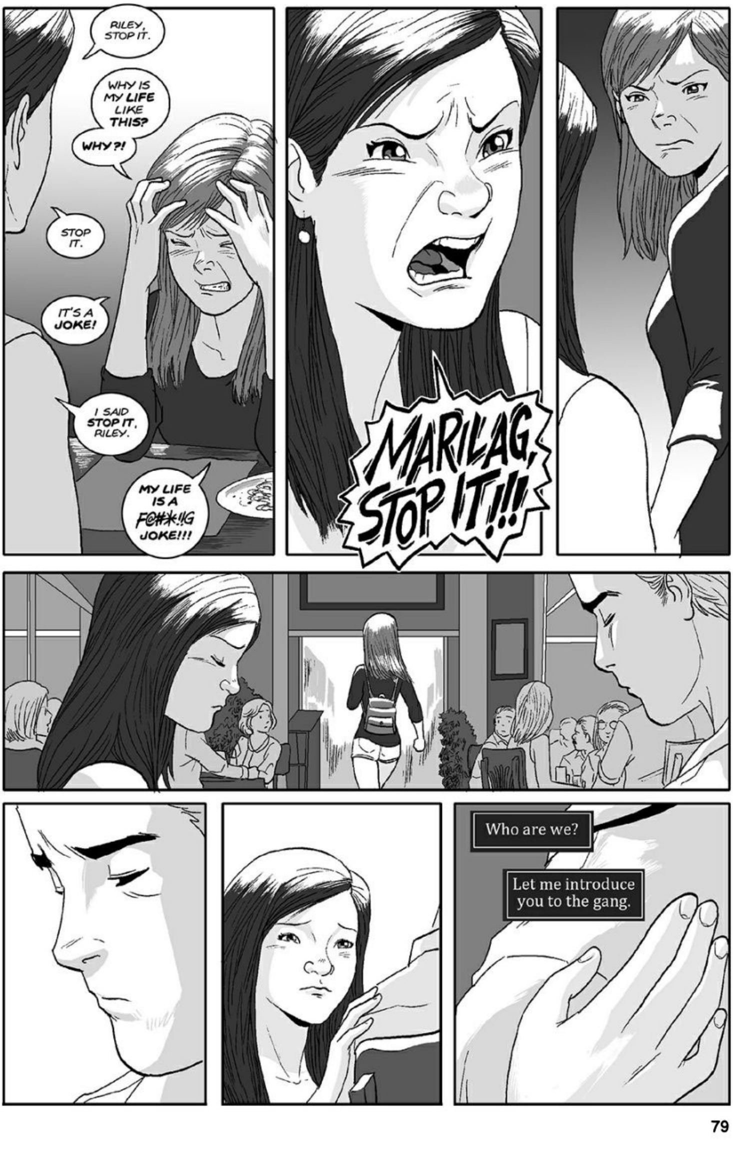

SO NOW YOU'VE **FINALLY** FOUND ME.
YOU GOING TO **BLAB** TO EVERYONE WHERE I **DISAPPEARED** TO AND **RUIN** MY ALREADY **PEACEFUL** LIFE?
WHAT DO YOU **WANT?**
I JUST WANT TO KNOW...
..WHY.
PLEASE..
..**DON'T** DO THIS..
DON'T YOU THINK I **DESERVE** AT LEAST A FAREWELL NOTE FOR **THIS,** INSTEAD OF RUNNING AWAY AND **GHOSTING** ON ME--
..ON **ALL** OF US?
YOU ALREADY HAVE AN **IDEA.**
NO MORE **'IDEAS'.**
I WANT TO HEAR IT **STRAIGHT** FROM YOU.
I..I **CAN'T** GIVE YOU THE CLOSURE YOU...
**WHAT?** DID YOU SAY **'CLOSURE'**? I **DON'T** NEED **CLOSURE.**
I JUST **WANT** PAIN, AGONY AND SUFFERING THE **REST** OF MY LIFE.
REY, **LISTEN** TO ME VERY **CAREFULLY--**
DO YOU **RECALL** WHAT **HAPPENED** FOUR **YEARS** AGO?
**THAT** WAS THE LAST **STRAW.**
DO YOU **REMEMBER,** REY? THOSE DAYS OF **NOT** BEING ABLE TO SLEEP FOR A **WEEK**, SCARED OF THAT **DREAM** AGAIN? I DON'T NEED MEMORIES LIKE **THAT.**
AND **NEITHER** DO **YOU.**
IT'S **OVER** FOR ME-- THE QUEST, MRS. ENKANTA, THAT SO CALLED **ADVENTURE** WE HAD...
..I DON'T WANT TO BE **PART** OF THAT WORLD **ANYMORE.**
AND MOST **CERTAINLY** NOT OF **YOURS.**
THAT'S WHY I CAN **NEVER** SPEND MY LIFE WITH YOU.
DO YOU **UNDERSTAND?**

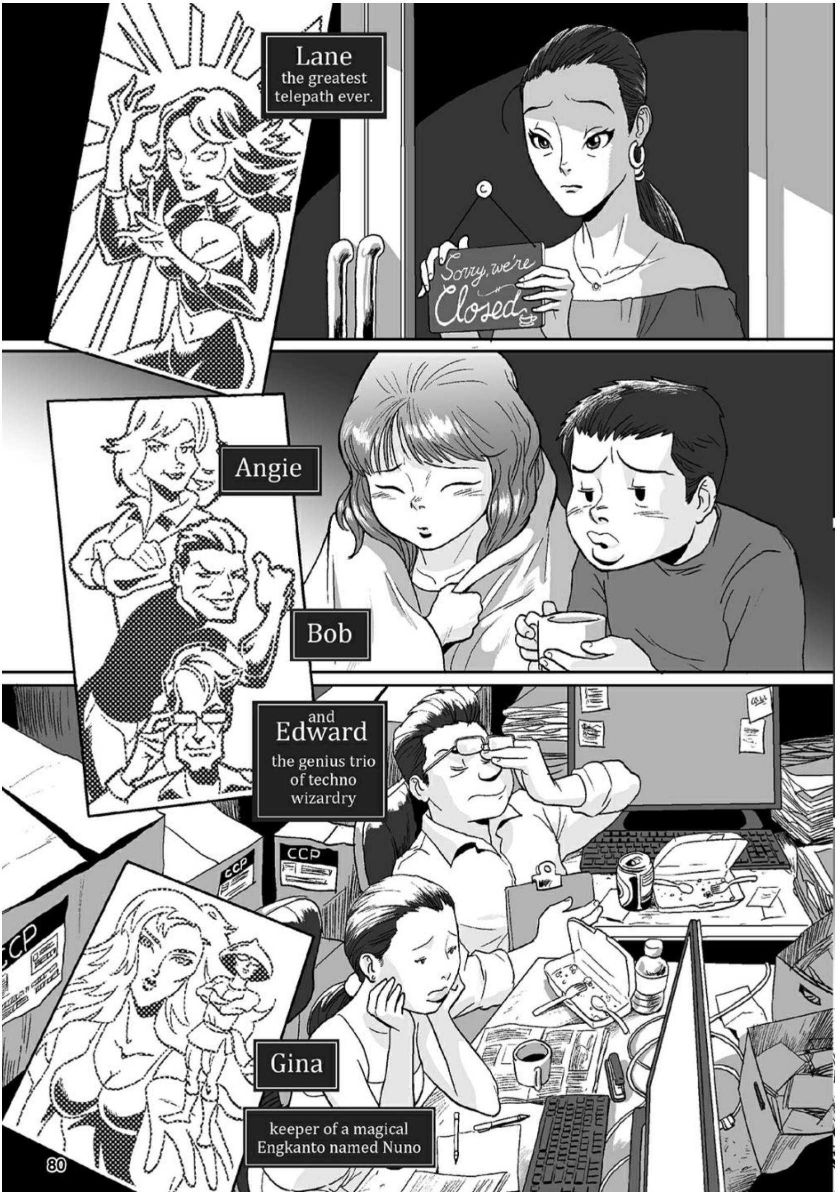

WE HAVE TO MOVE FORWARD, REY. IT'S BEEN TWENTY YEARS. THOSE DAYS WITH ENKANTA ARE LONG GONE.
DO SOMETHING WITH YOUR LIFE LIKE WHAT I'M DOING.
THERE'S NO OTHER WAY FOR US.
I'M SORRY IT HAD TO BE LIKE THIS.
AND I'M SORRY YOU WASTED FOUR YEARS TRYING TO FIND ME.
NO, I DIDN'T.
I GOT MY ANSWER.
GOODBYE, MISHA.
I WISH YOU A HAPPY LIFE.
GOODBYE, REY.
"RILEY, I'D LIKE TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT SCHOOL."

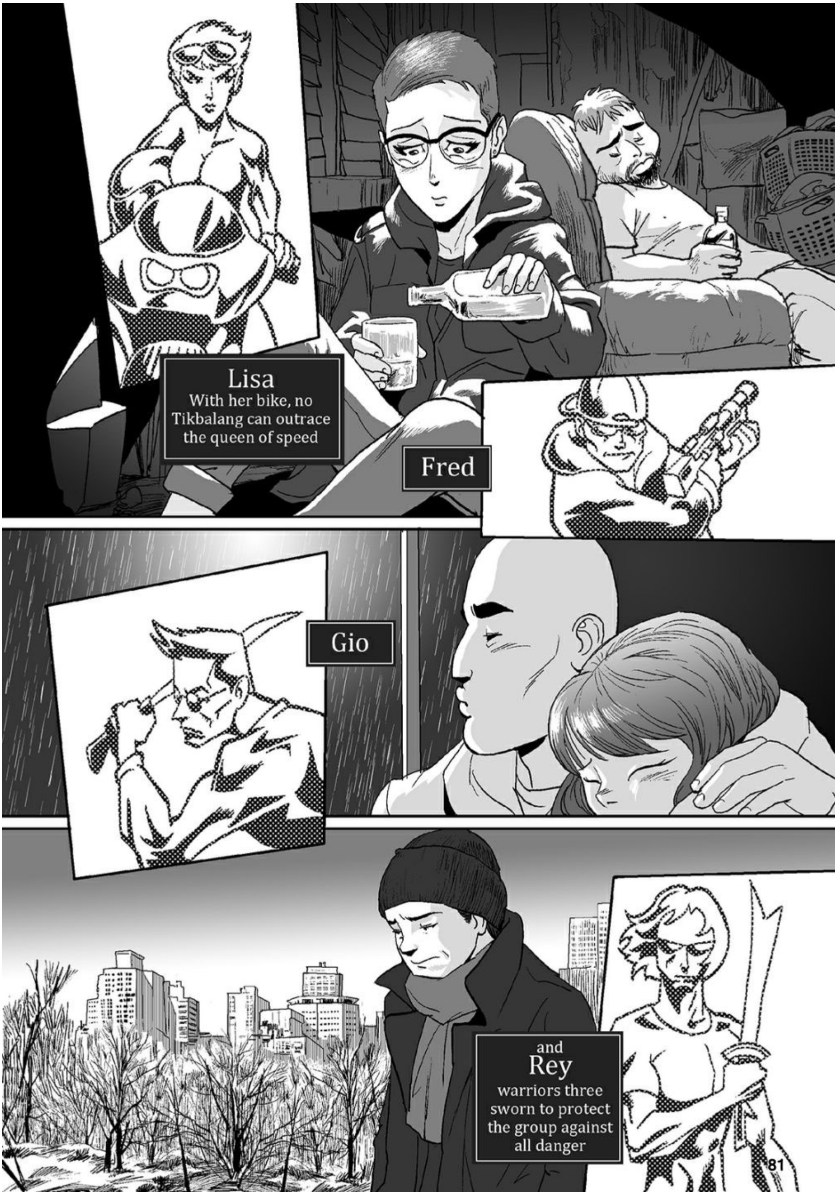

TEDx
Thank You!
BECAUSE YOUR **STS** PROFESSOR SPOKE TO ME THIS **MORNING**.
SHE SAID YOU **HAVEN'T** BEEN ATTENDING HER **CLASSES.**
TEDx
Thank You!
RILEY, I'M TALKING TO YOU.
**MOM** WILL YOU JUST **CHILL?!**
SCHOOL'S **FINE!** OKAY?
DIDN'T YOU **PROMISE** WHEN I AGREED TO LET YOU GO TO THAT **CONCERT** THIS FRIDAY?
ALSO, YOU **HAVEN'T** BEEN TOUCHING THE **MEALS** I KEEP PREPARING FOR **YOU**.
YOU'RE **WASTING** A LOT OF **FOOD**.
OH! YOU MEAN THAT **STUFF** YOU AND DAD CALL **FOOD?**
ALL WE **EVER** EAT AT HOME ARE BORING **PLANTS** AND STUPID **GRAINS** THAT TASTE LIKE CRAP**!**

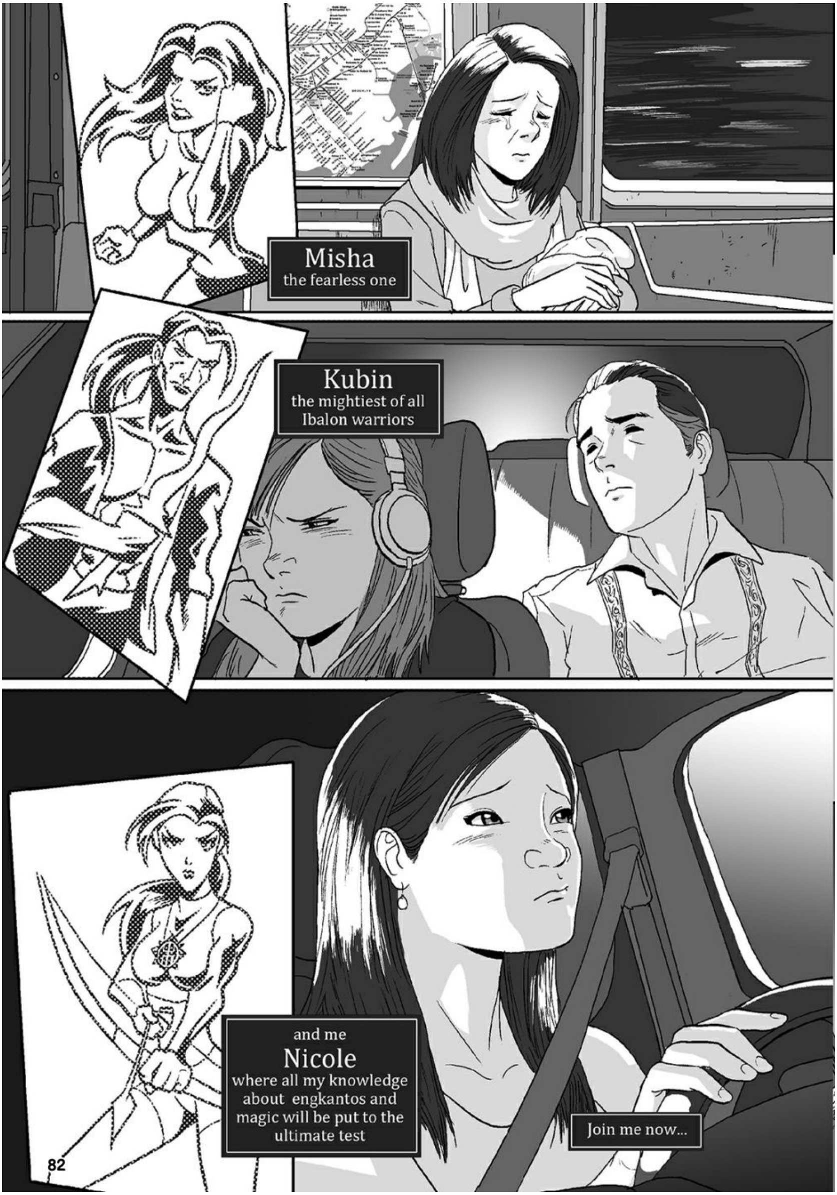

I TOLD YOU, YOUR FATHER CAN'T EAT ANYTHING ELSE.
BESIDES, IT'S GOOD FOR US.
DIDN'T I EXPLAIN IT TO YOU BEFORE?
MOM--
CAN YOU JUST LET ME ENJOY THIS MEAL I ORDERED?
HONEY, LISTEN--
I KNOW HOW YOU'RE FEELING.
YOU DON'T KNOW HOW I FEEL.
YES, I DO.
NO, YOU DON'T, MOM!

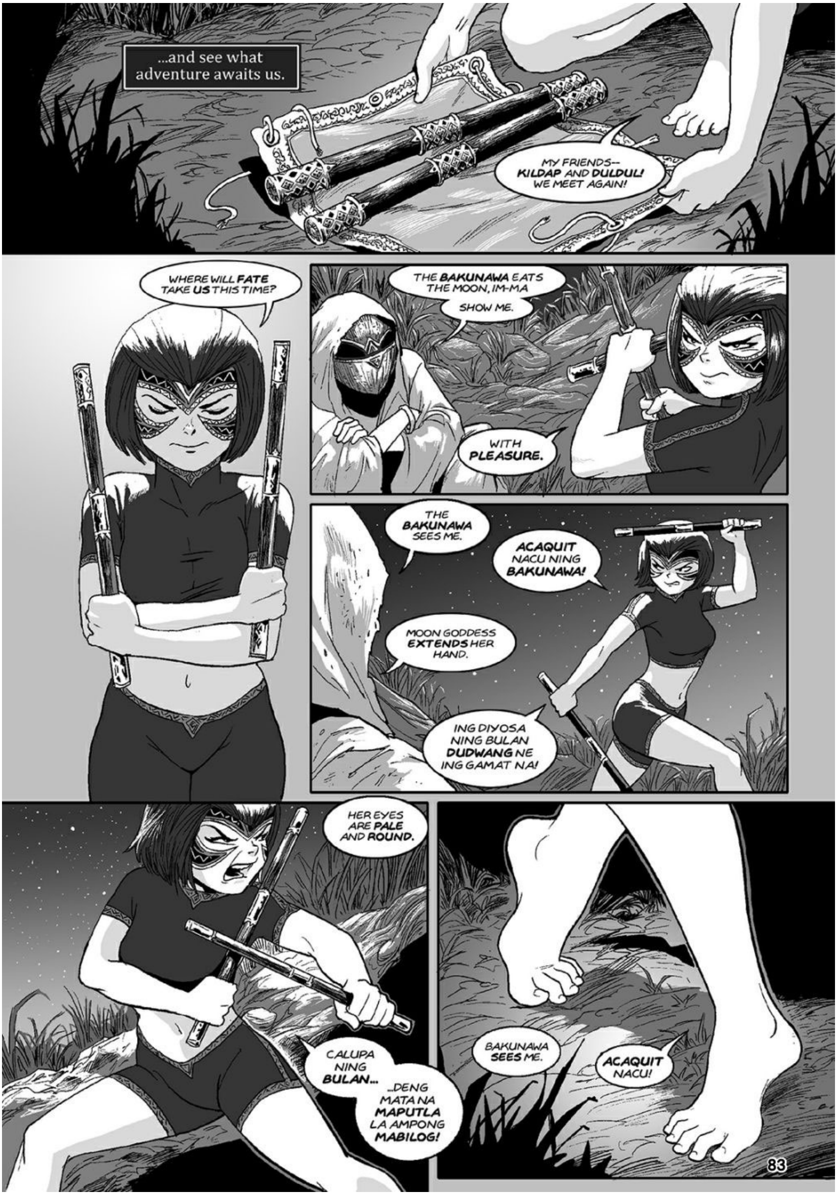

WH-- WHAT THE HELL?!!
WHAT THE HELL, DAD?!!
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS AGAIN?!
YOU PROMISED YOU'D NEVER DO THIS AGAIN!
RILEY, DON'T!
TEDx DI
Thank You!
MOM, CAN'T YOU SEE? EVERYONE'S LOOKING AT US!
ARE YOU BLIND?!!
TEDx DI
Thank You!
RILEY, PLEASE...
SERIOUSLY, WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH YOU TWO?!!

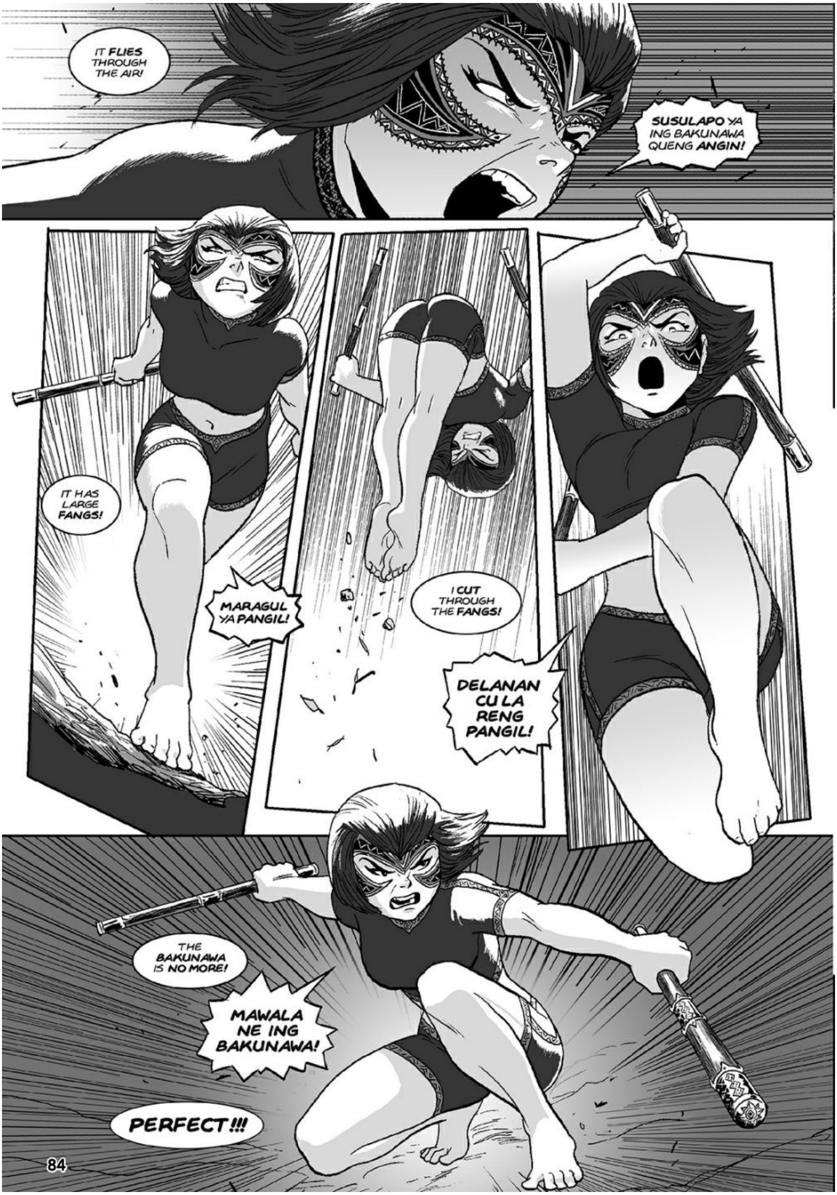

RILEY, STOP IT.
WHY IS MY LIFE LIKE THIS?
WHY?!
STOP IT.
IT'S A JOKE!
I SAID STOP IT, RILEY.
MY LIFE IS A F@#*!!G JOKE!!!
MARILAG, STOP IT!!!
Who are we?
Let me introduce you to the gang.

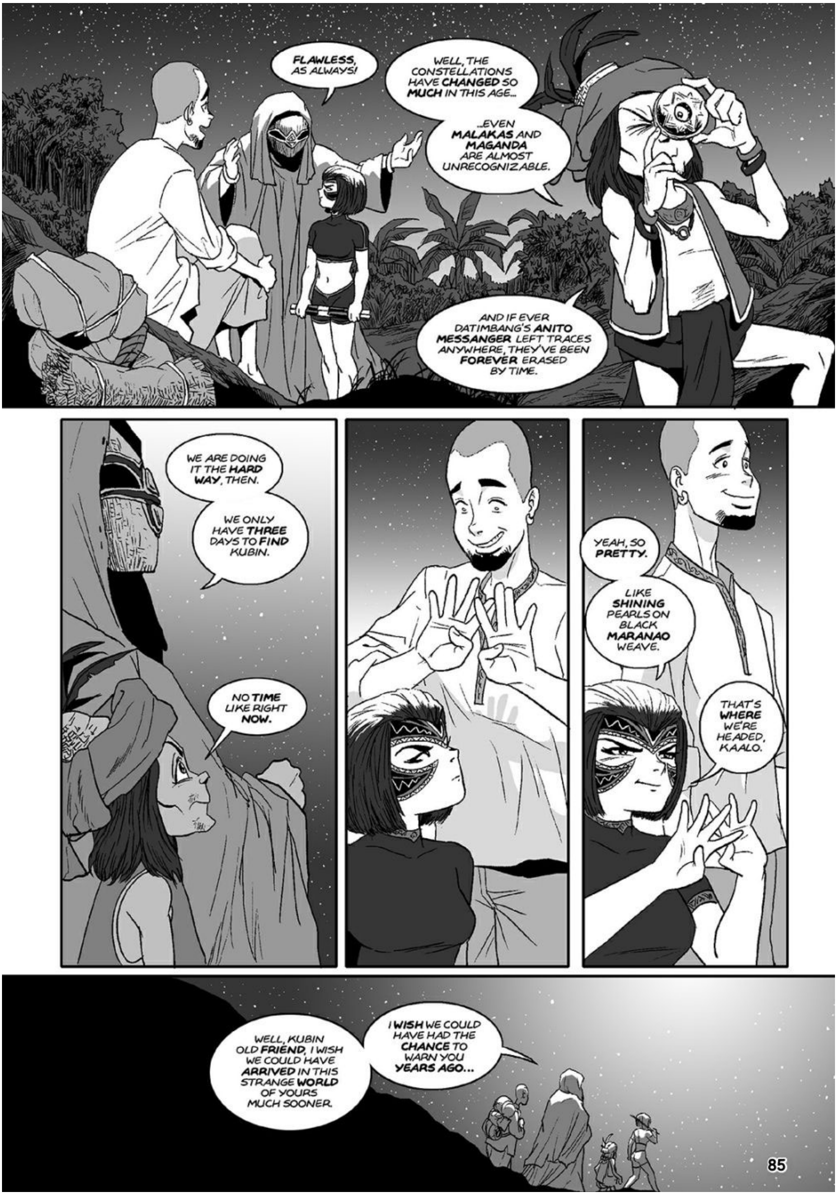

Lane
the greatest telepath ever.
Sorry, we're Closed
Angie
Bob
and Edward
the genius trio of techno wizardry
CCP
CCP
CCP
Gina
keeper of a magical Engkanto named Nuno

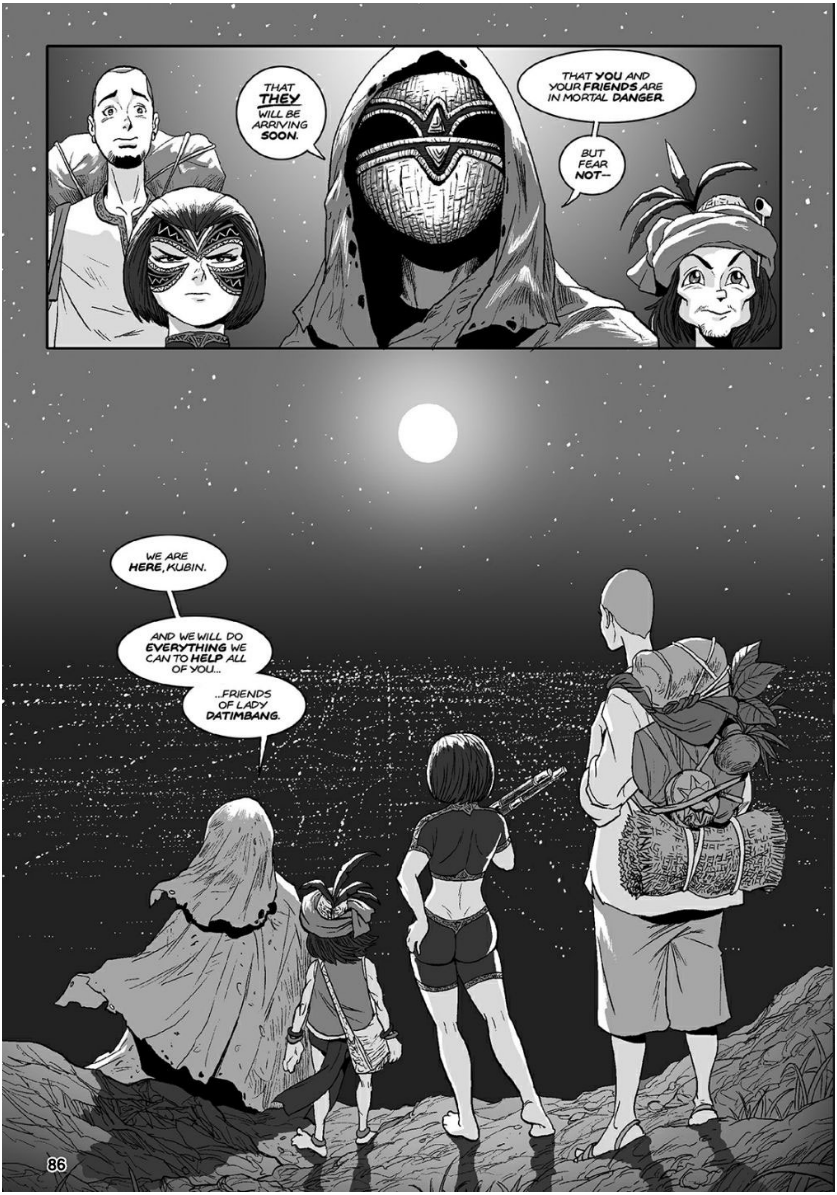

Lisa
With her bike, no Tikbalang can outrace the queen of speed
Fred
Gio
and
Rey
warriors three sworn to protect the group against all danger


Misha
the fearless one
Kubin
the mightiest of all
Ibalon warriors
and me
Nicole
where all my knowledge
about engkantos and
magic will be put to the
ultimate test
Join me now...

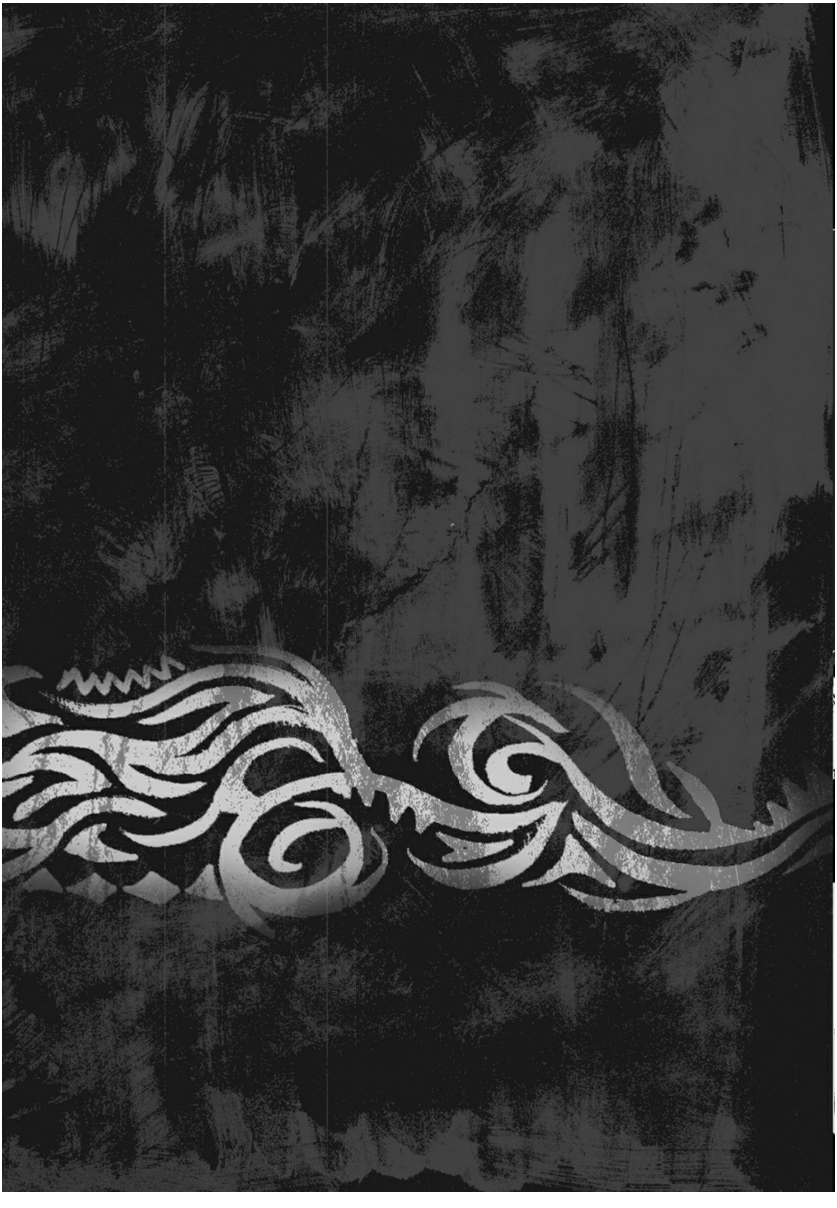

...and see what adventure awaits us.
MY FRIENDS-- KILDAP AND DULDUL! WE MEET AGAIN!
WHERE WILL FATE TAKE US THIS TIME?
THE BAKUNAWA EATS THE MOON, IM-MA
SHOW ME.
WITH PLEASURE.
THE BAKUNAWA SEES ME.
ACAQUIT NACU NING BAKUNAWA!
MOON GODDESS EXTENDS HER HAND.
ING DIYOSA NING BULAN DUDWANG NE ING GAMAT NA!
HER EYES ARE PALE AND ROUND.
CALUPA NING BULAN...
...DENG MATA NA MAPUTLA LA AMPONG MABILOG!
BAKUNAWA SEES ME.
ACAQUIT NACU!

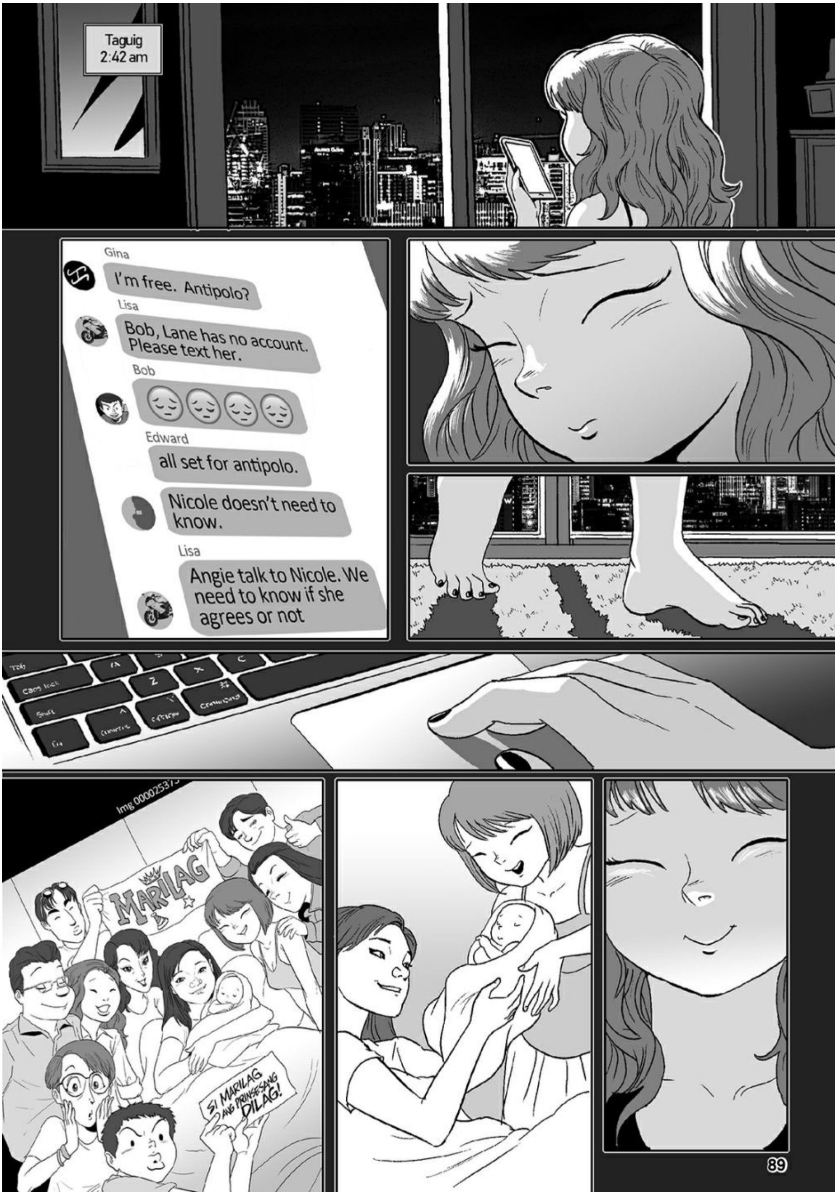

IT FLIES THROUGH THE AIR!
SUSULAPO YA ING BAKUNAWA QUENG ANGIN!
IT HAS LARGE FANGS!
MARAGUL YA PANGIL!
I CUT THROUGH THE FANGS!
DELANAN CU LA RENG PANGIL!
THE BAKUNAWA IS NO MORE!
MAWALA NE ING BAKUNAWA!
PERFECT!!!


FLAWLESS, AS ALWAYS!
WELL, THE CONSTELLATIONS HAVE CHANGED SO MUCH IN THIS AGE...
...EVEN MALAKAS AND MAGANDA ARE ALMOST UNRECOGNIZABLE.
AND IF EVER DATIMBANG'S ANITO MESSANGER LEFT TRACES ANYWHERE, THEY'VE BEEN FOREVER ERASED BY TIME.
WE ARE DOING IT THE HARD WAY, THEN.
WE ONLY HAVE THREE DAYS TO FIND KUBIN.
NO TIME LIKE RIGHT NOW.
YEAH, SO PRETTY.
LIKE SHINING PEARLS ON BLACK MARANAO WEAVE.
THAT'S WHERE WE'RE HEADED, KAALO.
WELL, KUBIN OLD FRIEND, I WISH WE COULD HAVE ARRIVED IN THIS STRANGE WORLD OF YOURS MUCH SOONER.
I WISH WE COULD HAVE HAD THE CHANCE TO WARN YOU YEARS AGO...


THAT **THEY** WILL BE ARRIVING **SOON**.
THAT **YOU** AND YOUR **FRIENDS** ARE IN MORTAL **DANGER**.
BUT FEAR **NOT**--
WE ARE **HERE**, KUBIN.
AND WE WILL DO **EVERYTHING** WE CAN TO **HELP** ALL OF YOU...
...FRIENDS OF LADY **DATIMBANG**.

# II




Taguig
2:42 am

Gina
I'm free. Antipolo?

Lisa
Bob, Lane has no account. Please text her.

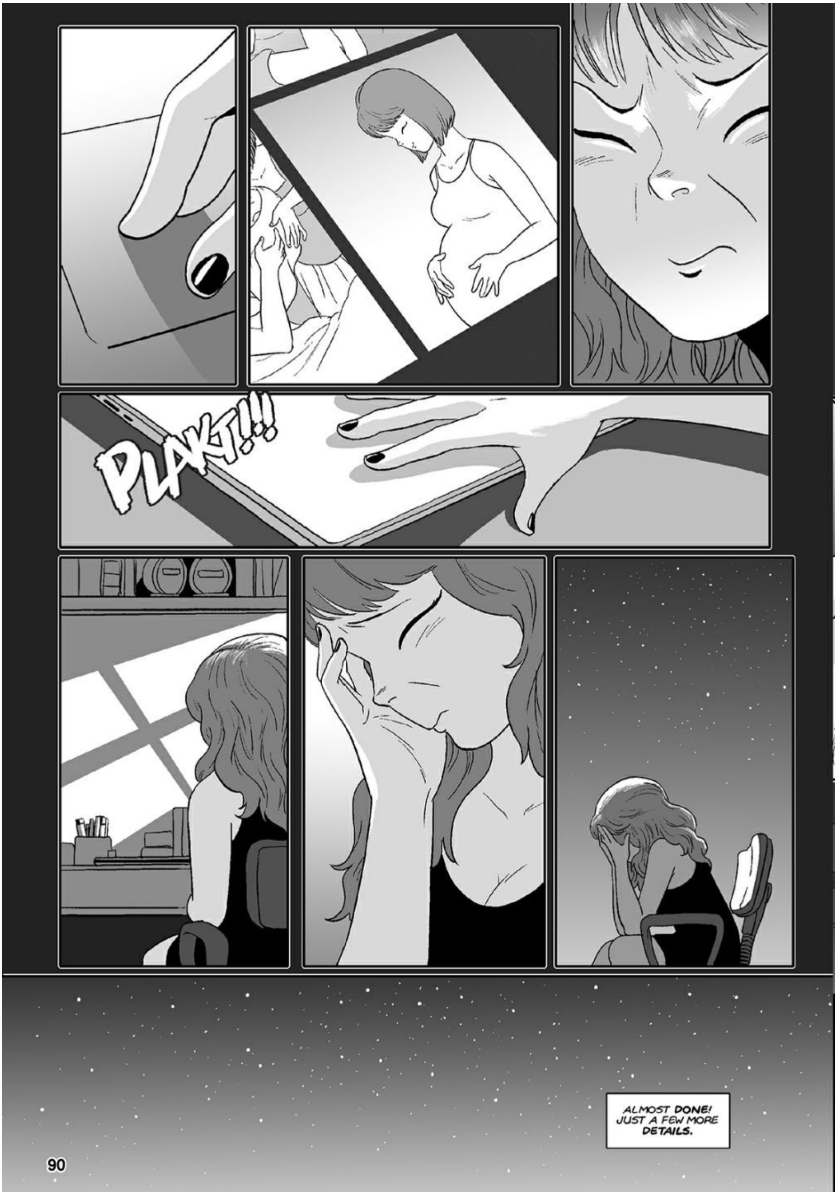
Bob
😔😔😔😔

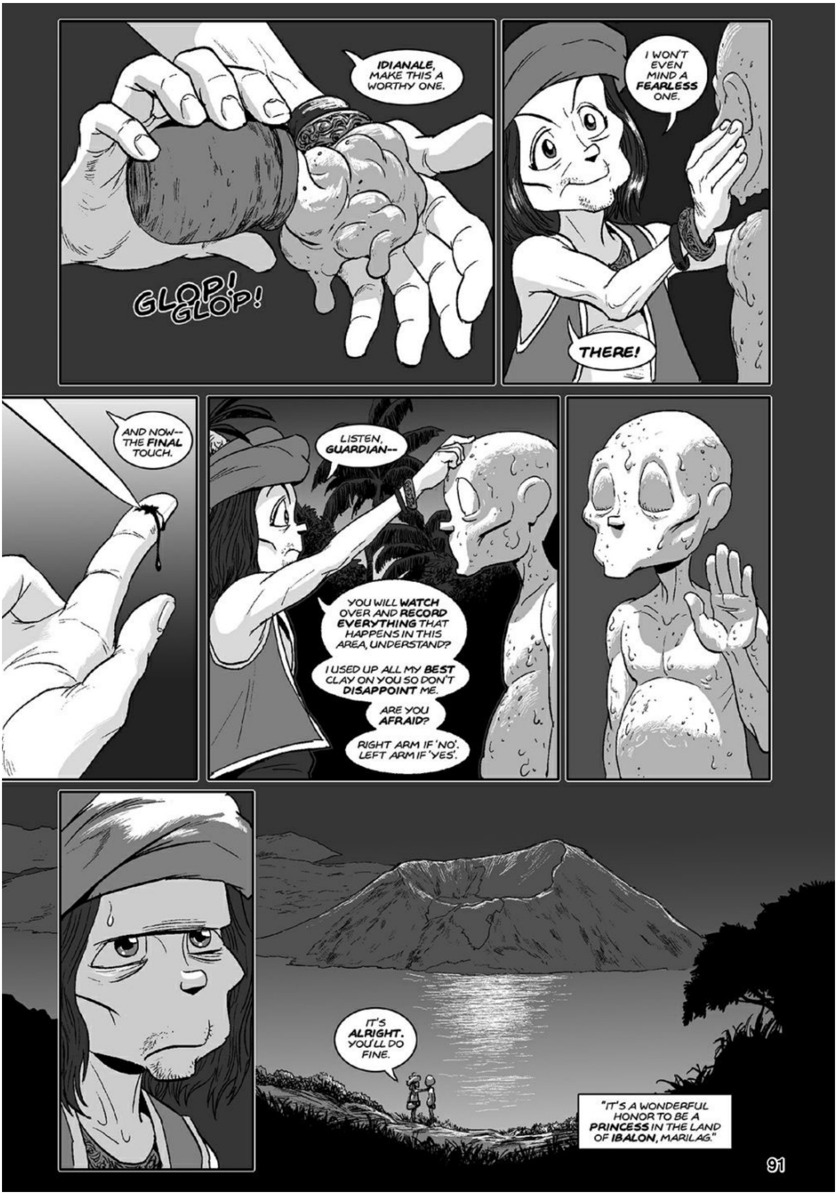
Edward
all set for antipolo.

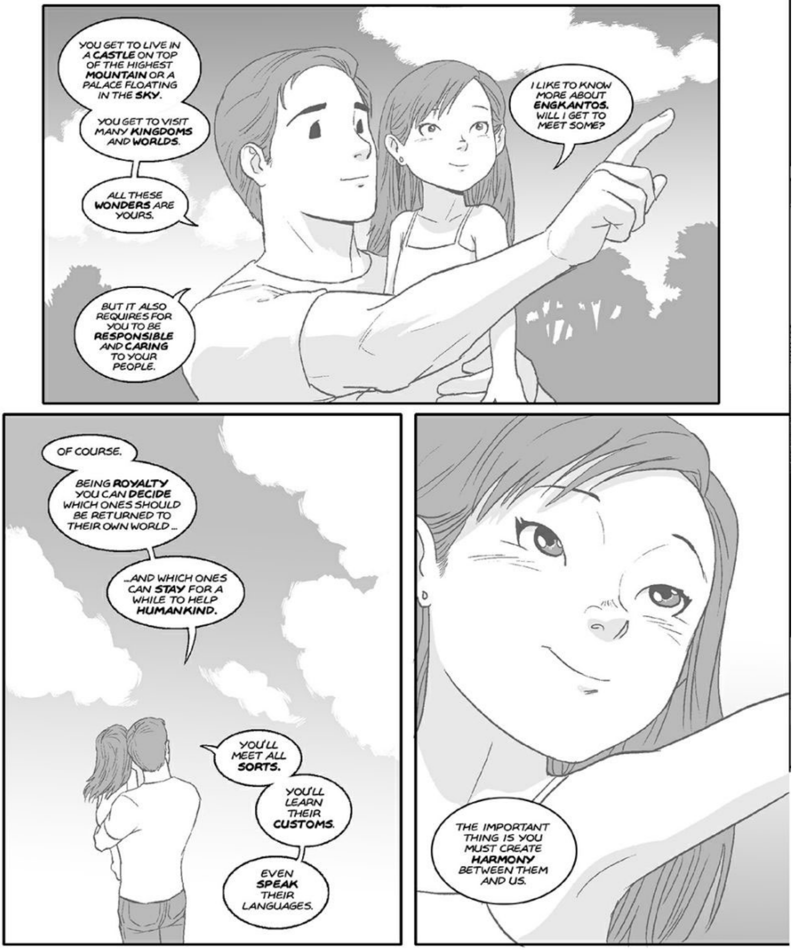
Nicole doesn't need to know.

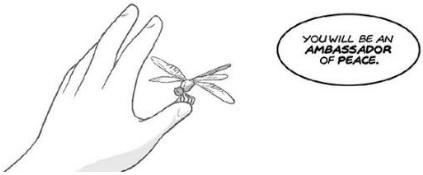
Lisa
Angie talk to Nicole. We need to know if she agrees or not

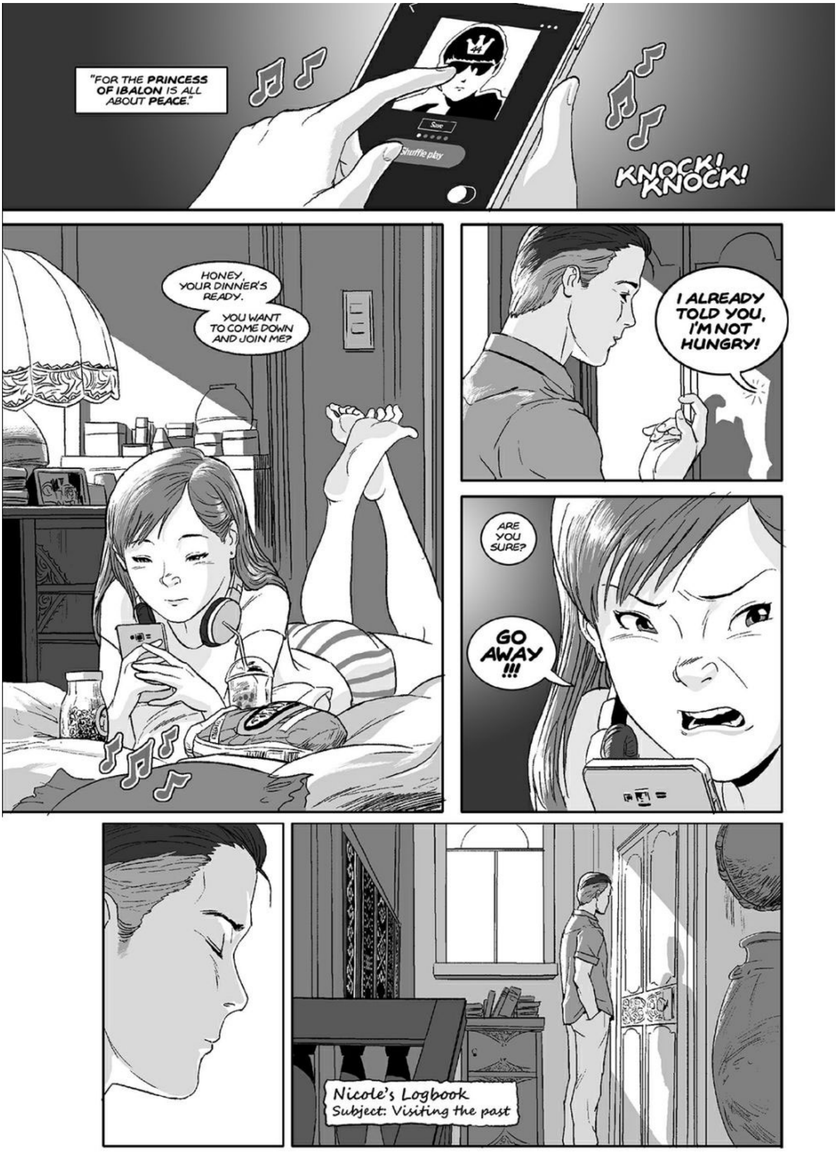
Img 00002537
MARILAG
SI MARILAG ANG PRINSESANG DILAG!

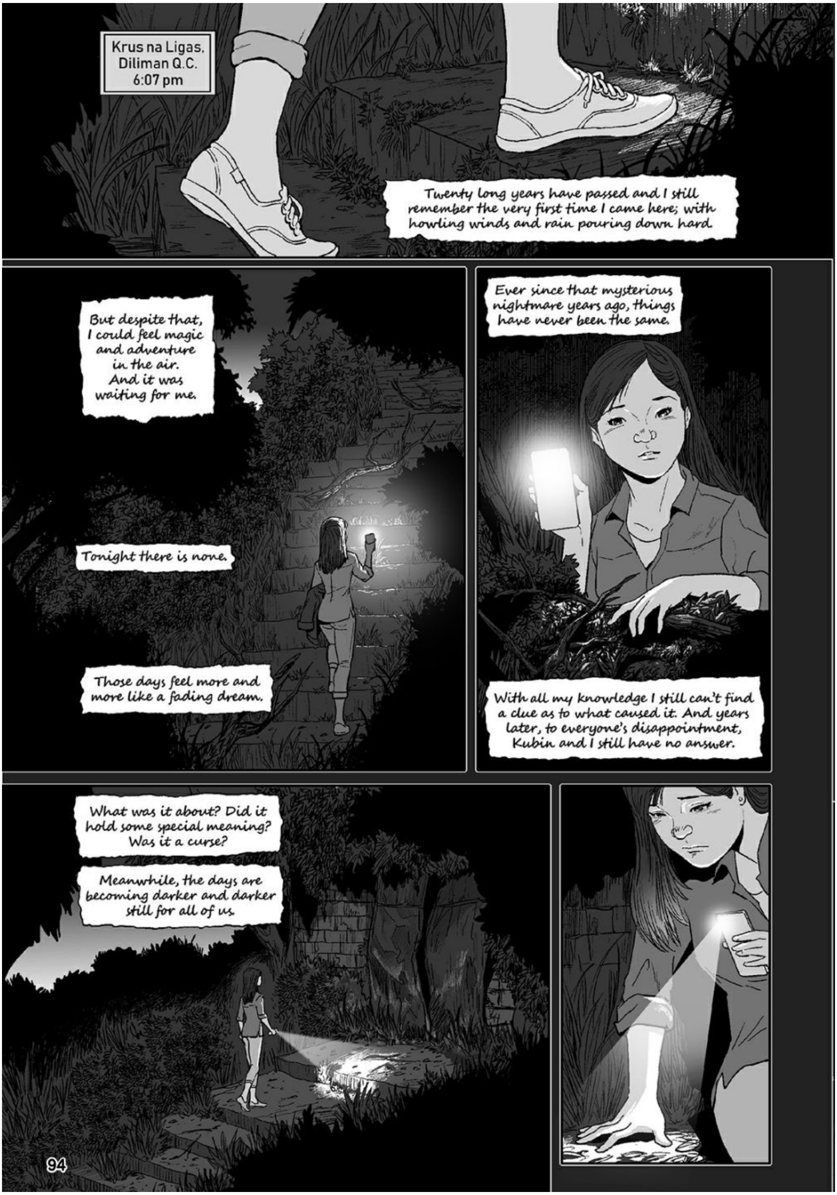

PLAKT!!!
ALMOST DONE! JUST A FEW MORE DETAILS.

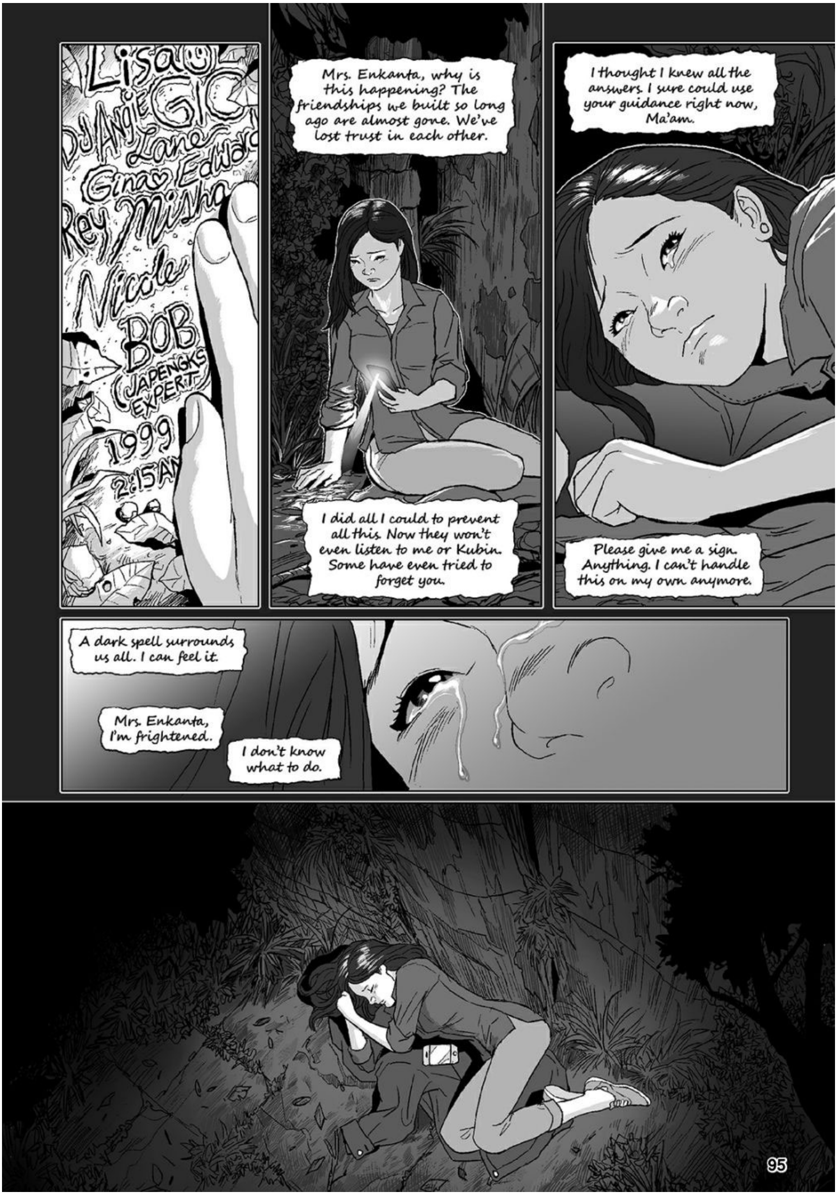

IDIANALE, MAKE THIS A WORTHY ONE.
GLOP! GLOP!
I WON'T EVEN MIND A FEARLESS ONE.
THERE!
AND NOW-- THE FINAL TOUCH.
LISTEN, GUARDIAN--
YOU WILL WATCH OVER AND RECORD EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENS IN THIS AREA, UNDERSTAND?
I USED UP ALL MY BEST CLAY ON YOU SO DON'T DISAPPOINT ME.
ARE YOU AFRAID?
RIGHT ARM IF 'NO'. LEFT ARM IF 'YES'.
IT'S ALRIGHT. YOU'LL DO FINE.
"IT'S A WONDERFUL HONOR TO BE A PRINCESS IN THE LAND OF IBALON, MARILAG."

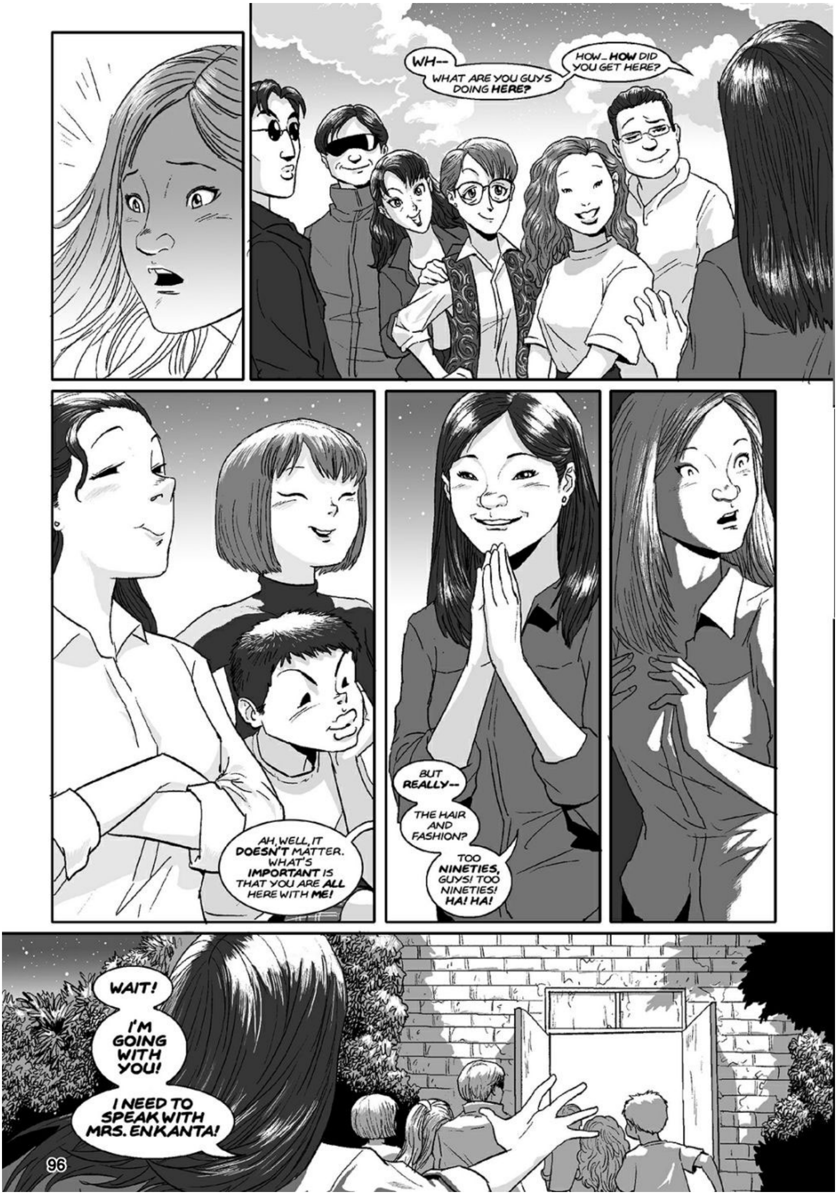

YOU GET TO LIVE IN A **CASTLE** ON TOP OF THE HIGHEST **MOUNTAIN** OR A PALACE FLOATING IN THE **SKY**.
YOU GET TO VISIT MANY **KINGDOMS** AND **WORLDS**.
ALL THESE **WONDERS** ARE YOURS.
I LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT **ENGKANTOS.** WILL I GET TO MEET SOME?
BUT IT ALSO REQUIRES FOR YOU TO BE **RESPONSIBLE** AND **CARING** TO YOUR PEOPLE.
OF COURSE.
BEING **ROYALTY** YOU CAN **DECIDE** WHICH ONES SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THEIR OWN WORLD ...
...AND WHICH ONES CAN **STAY** FOR A WHILE TO HELP **HUMANKIND.**
YOU'LL MEET ALL **SORTS.**
YOU'LL LEARN THEIR **CUSTOMS**.
EVEN **SPEAK** THEIR LANGUAGES.
THE IMPORTANT THING IS YOU MUST CREATE **HARMONY** BETWEEN THEM AND US.

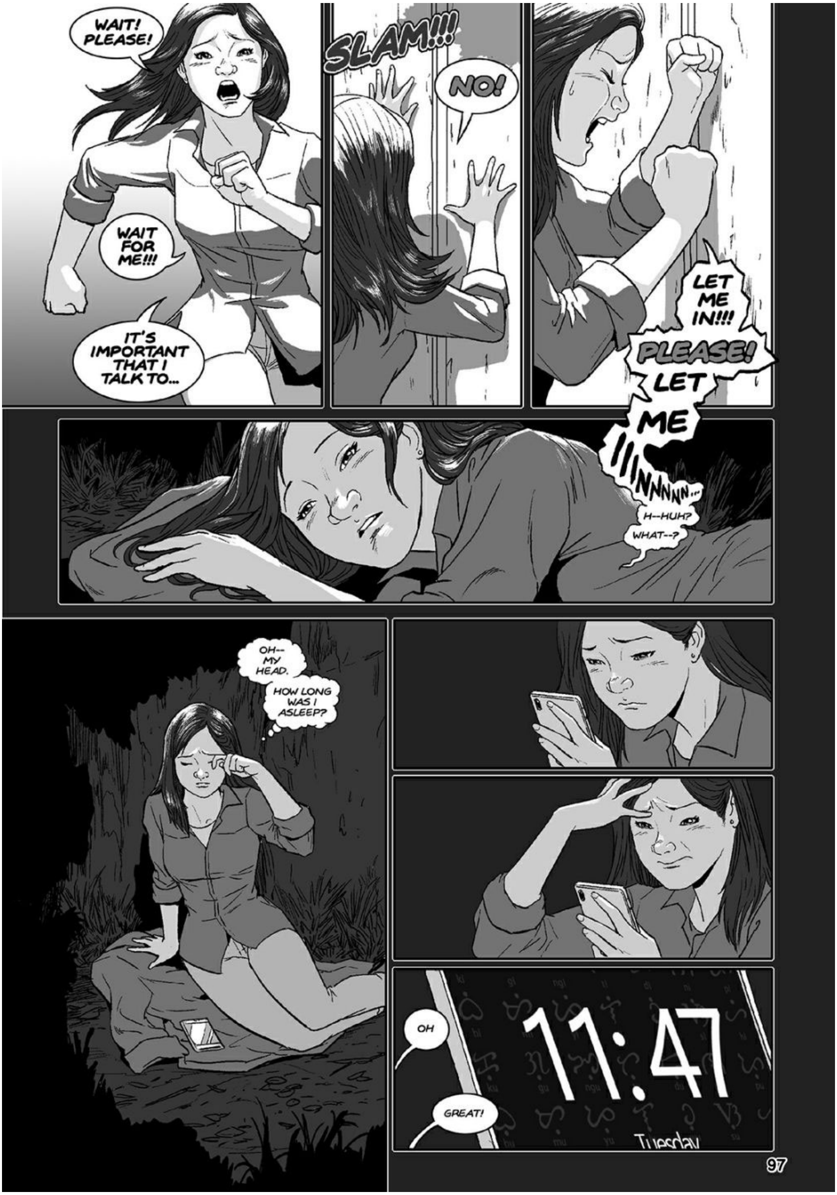

YOU WILL BE AN **AMBASSADOR** OF **PEACE.**

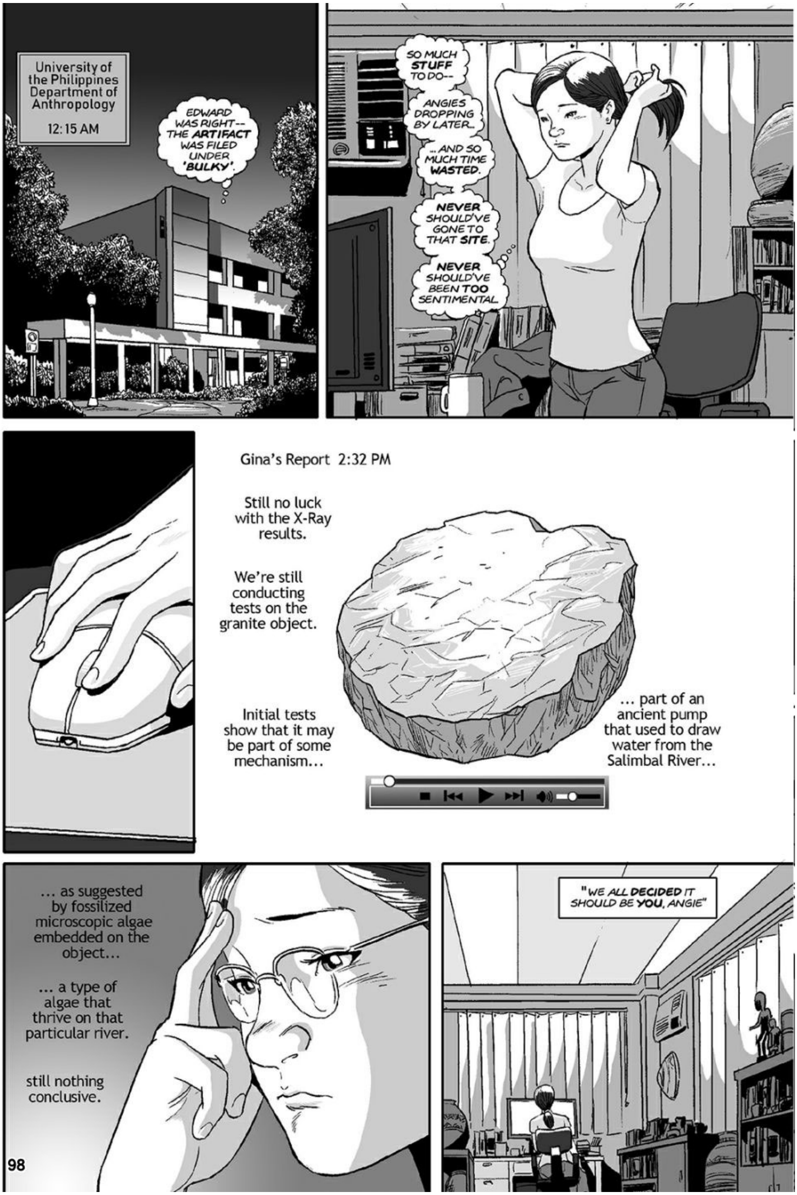

"FOR THE **PRINCESS OF IBALON** IS ALL ABOUT **PEACE**."
Save
Shuffle play
KNOCK! KNOCK!
HONEY, YOUR DINNER'S READY.
YOU WANT TO COME DOWN AND JOIN ME?
I ALREADY TOLD YOU, I'M NOT HUNGRY!
ARE YOU SURE?
GO AWAY !!!
Nicole's Logbook
Subject: Visiting the past

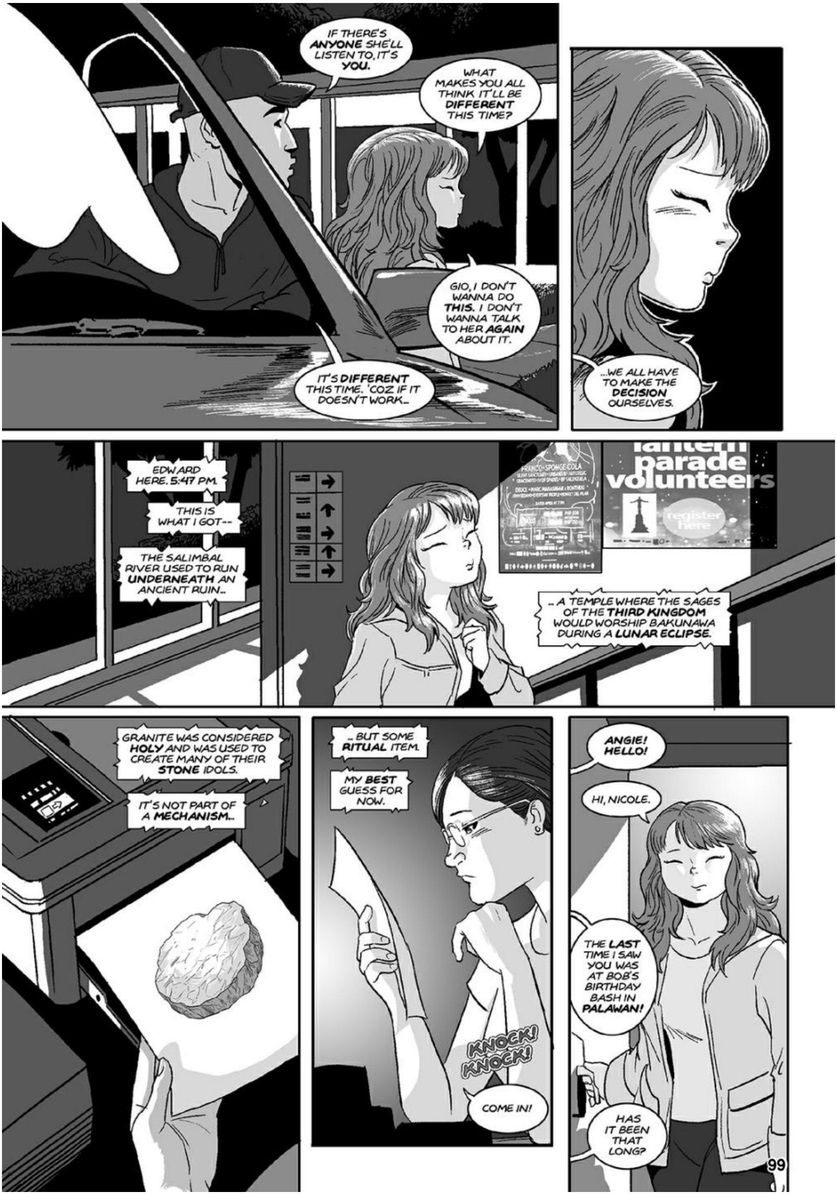

Krus na Ligas,
Diliman Q.C.
6:07 pm
Twenty long years have passed and I still remember the very first time I came here; with howling winds and rain pouring down hard.
But despite that, I could feel magic and adventure in the air. And it was waiting for me.
Tonight there is none.
Those days feel more and more like a fading dream.
Ever since that mysterious nightmare years ago, things have never been the same.
With all my knowledge I still can't find a clue as to what caused it. And years later, to everyone's disappointment, Kubin and I still have no answer.
What was it about? Did it hold some special meaning? Was it a curse?
Meanwhile, the days are becoming darker and darker still for all of us.

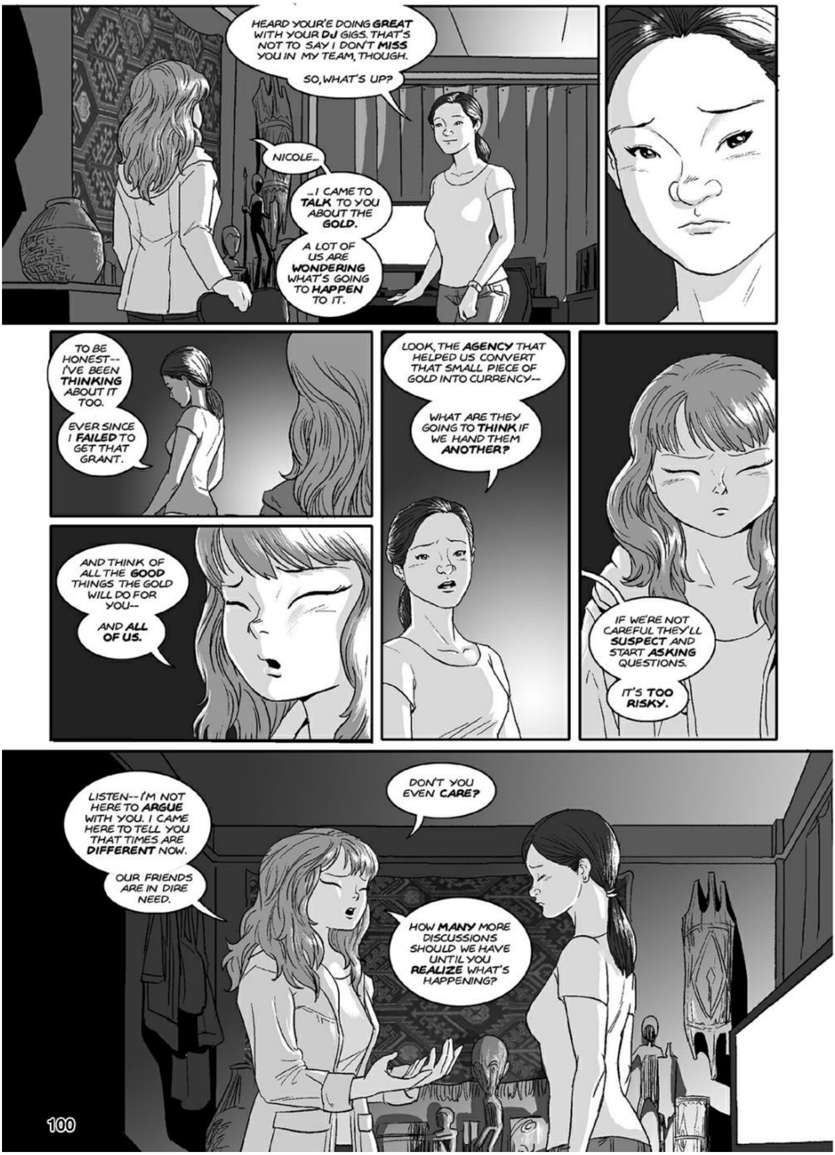

Lisa
DJ Angie
GIO
Lane
Gina ♥ Edwar
Rey
Misha
Nicole
BOB
(JAPENGKS EXPERT
1999
2:15 AM
Mrs. Enkanta, why is this happening? The friendships we built so long ago are almost gone. We've lost trust in each other.
I did all I could to prevent all this. Now they won't even listen to me or Kubin. Some have even tried to forget you.
I thought I knew all the answers. I sure could use your guidance right now, Ma'am.
Please give me a sign. Anything. I can't handle this on my own anymore.
A dark spell surrounds us all. I can feel it.
Mrs. Enkanta, I'm frightened.
I don't know what to do.

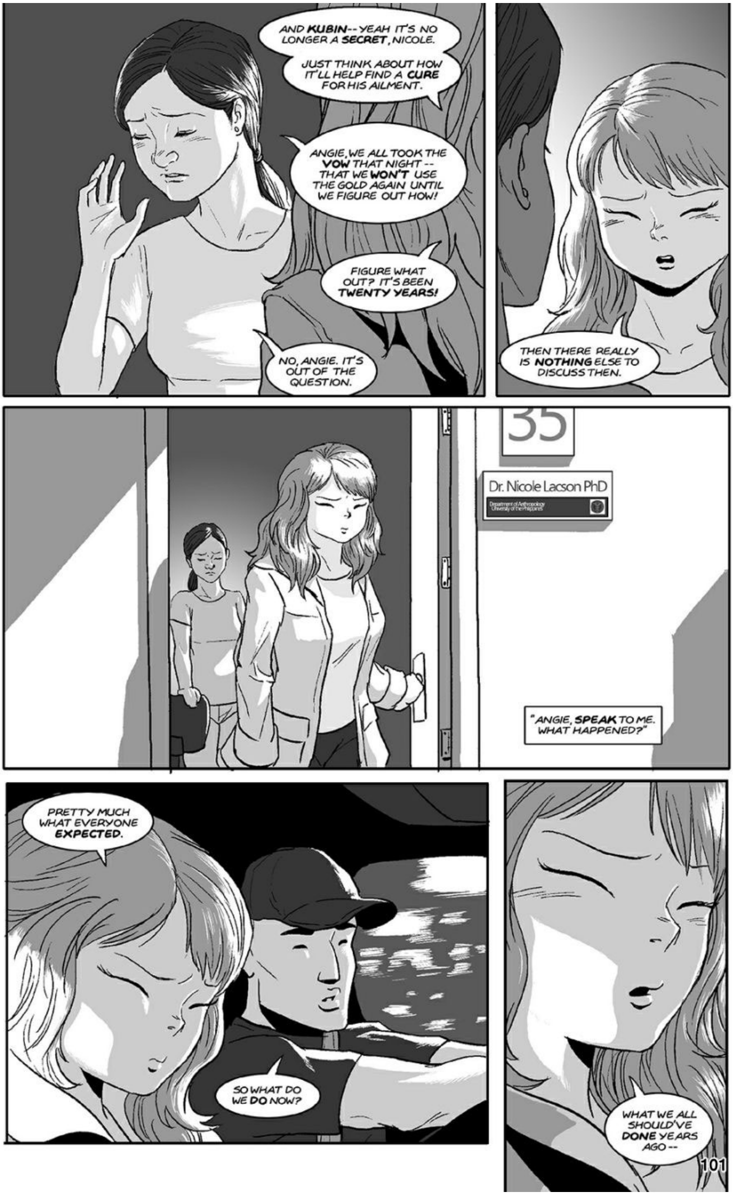

WH-- WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING HERE?
HOW... HOW DID YOU GET HERE?
AH, WELL, IT DOESN'T MATTER. WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS THAT YOU ARE ALL HERE WITH ME!
BUT REALLY--
THE HAIR AND FASHION?
TOO NINETIES, GUYS! TOO NINETIES! HA! HA!
WAIT!
I'M GOING WITH YOU!
I NEED TO SPEAK WITH MRS. ENKANTA!

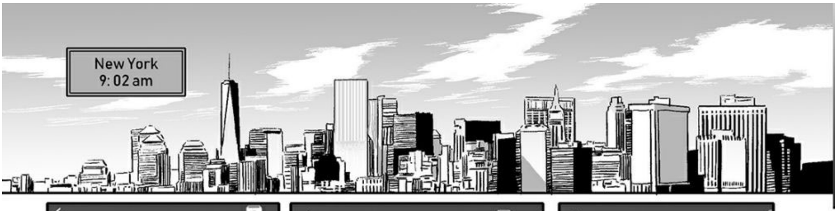

WAIT! PLEASE!
WAIT FOR ME!!!
IT'S IMPORTANT THAT I TALK TO...
SLAM!!!
NO!
LET ME IN!!!
PLEASE!
LET ME IIINNNNN...
H--HUH? WHAT--?
OH-- MY HEAD.
HOW LONG WAS I ASLEEP?
OH
GREAT!
11:47
Tuesday

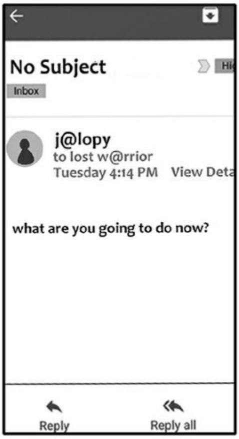

University of the Philippines Department of Anthropology
12:15 AM
EDWARD WAS RIGHT-- THE ARTIFACT WAS FILED UNDER 'BULKY'.
SO MUCH STUFF TO DO--
ANGIES DROPPING BY LATER...
...AND SO MUCH TIME WASTED.
NEVER SHOULD'VE GONE TO THAT SITE.
NEVER SHOULD'VE BEEN TOO SENTIMENTAL.
Gina's Report 2:32 PM
Still no luck with the X-Ray results.
We're still conducting tests on the granite object.
Initial tests show that it may be part of some mechanism...
... part of an ancient pump that used to draw water from the Salimbal River...
... as suggested by fossilized microscopic algae embedded on the object...
... a type of algae that thrive on that particular river.
still nothing conclusive.
"WE ALL DECIDED IT SHOULD BE YOU, ANGIE"


IF THERE'S **ANYONE** SHE'LL LISTEN TO, IT'S **YOU.**
WHAT MAKES YOU ALL THINK IT'LL BE **DIFFERENT** THIS TIME?
GIO, I DON'T WANNA DO **THIS.** I DON'T WANNA TALK TO HER **AGAIN** ABOUT IT.
IT'S **DIFFERENT** THIS TIME. 'COZ IF IT DOESN'T WORK...
...WE ALL HAVE TO MAKE THE **DECISION** OURSELVES.
EDWARD HERE. 5:47 PM.
THIS IS WHAT I GOT--
THE SALIMBAL RIVER USED TO RUN **UNDERNEATH** AN ANCIENT RUIN...
FRANCO • SPONGE COLA
parade
volunteers
register here
... A TEMPLE WHERE THE SAGES OF THE **THIRD KINGDOM** WOULD WORSHIP BAKUNAWA DURING A **LUNAR ECLIPSE.**
GRANITE WAS CONSIDERED **HOLY** AND WAS USED TO CREATE MANY OF THEIR **STONE** IDOLS.
IT'S NOT PART OF A **MECHANISM...**
... BUT SOME **RITUAL** ITEM.
MY **BEST** GUESS FOR NOW.
KNOCK! KNOCK!
COME IN!
**ANGIE! HELLO!**
HI, NICOLE.
THE **LAST** TIME I SAW YOU WAS AT BOB'S BIRTHDAY BASH IN **PALAWAN!**
HAS IT BEEN THAT LONG?


HEARD YOUR'E DOING **GREAT** WITH YOUR **DJ** GIGS. THAT'S NOT TO SAY I DON'T **MISS** YOU IN MY TEAM, THOUGH.
SO, WHAT'S UP?
NICOLE...
...I CAME TO **TALK** TO YOU ABOUT THE **GOLD.**
A LOT OF US ARE **WONDERING** WHAT'S GOING TO **HAPPEN** TO IT.
TO BE HONEST-- I'VE BEEN **THINKING** ABOUT IT TOO.
EVER SINCE I **FAILED** TO GET THAT GRANT.
LOOK, THE **AGENCY** THAT HELPED US CONVERT THAT SMALL PIECE OF GOLD INTO CURRENCY--
WHAT ARE THEY GOING TO **THINK** IF WE HAND THEM **ANOTHER?**
AND THINK OF ALL THE **GOOD** THINGS THE GOLD WILL DO FOR YOU--
AND **ALL OF US.**
IF WE'RE NOT CAREFUL THEY'LL **SUSPECT** AND START **ASKING** QUESTIONS.
IT'S **TOO RISKY.**
DON'T YOU EVEN **CARE?**
LISTEN--I'M NOT HERE TO **ARGUE** WITH YOU. I CAME HERE TO TELL YOU THAT TIMES ARE **DIFFERENT** NOW.
OUR FRIENDS ARE IN DIRE NEED.
HOW **MANY** MORE DISCUSSIONS SHOULD WE HAVE UNTIL YOU **REALIZE** WHAT'S HAPPENING?


AND **KUBIN**-- YEAH IT'S NO LONGER A **SECRET**, NICOLE.
JUST THINK ABOUT HOW IT'LL HELP FIND A **CURE** FOR HIS AILMENT.
ANGIE, WE ALL TOOK THE **VOW** THAT NIGHT -- THAT WE **WON'T** USE THE GOLD AGAIN UNTIL WE FIGURE OUT HOW!
FIGURE WHAT OUT? IT'S BEEN **TWENTY YEARS!**
NO, ANGIE. IT'S OUT OF THE QUESTION.
THEN THERE REALLY IS **NOTHING** ELSE TO DISCUSS THEN.
35
Dr. Nicole Lacson PhD
Department of Anthropology University of the Philippines
"ANGIE, **SPEAK** TO ME. WHAT HAPPENED?"
PRETTY MUCH WHAT EVERYONE **EXPECTED**.
SO WHAT DO WE **DO** NOW?
WHAT WE ALL SHOULD'VE **DONE** YEARS AGO --

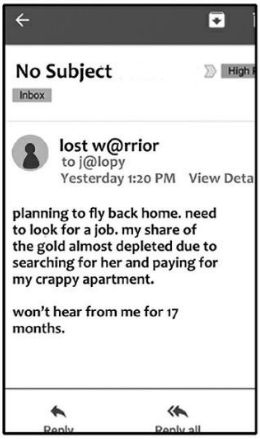

New York
9:02 am


Hi
Reply
Reply all

No Subject
Inbox

j@lopy
to lost w@rrior
Tuesday 4:14 PM View Deta

what are you going to do now?

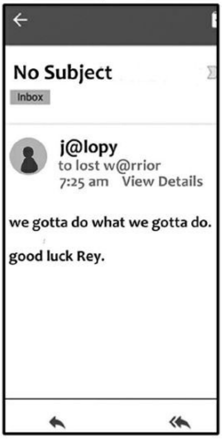

High I
Reply
Reply all

No Subject
Inbox

lost w@rrior
to j@lopy
Yesterday 1:20 PM View Deta

planning to fly back home. need to look for a job. my share of the gold almost depleted due to searching for her and paying for my crappy apartment.

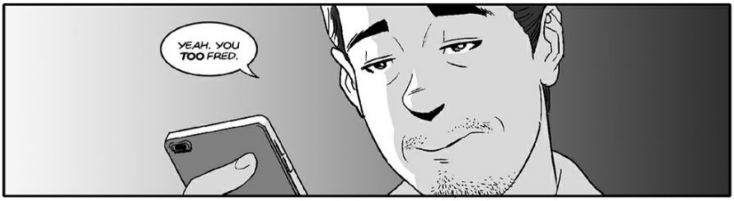
won't hear from me for 17 months.

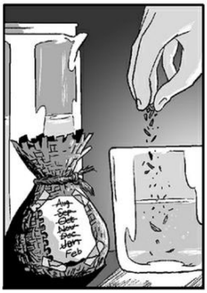

No Subject
Inbox

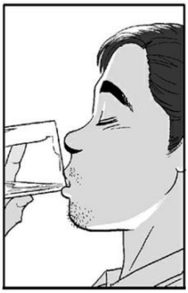
j@lopy
to lost w@rrior
7:25 am View Details

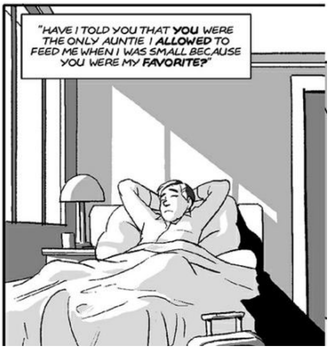
we gotta do what we gotta do.

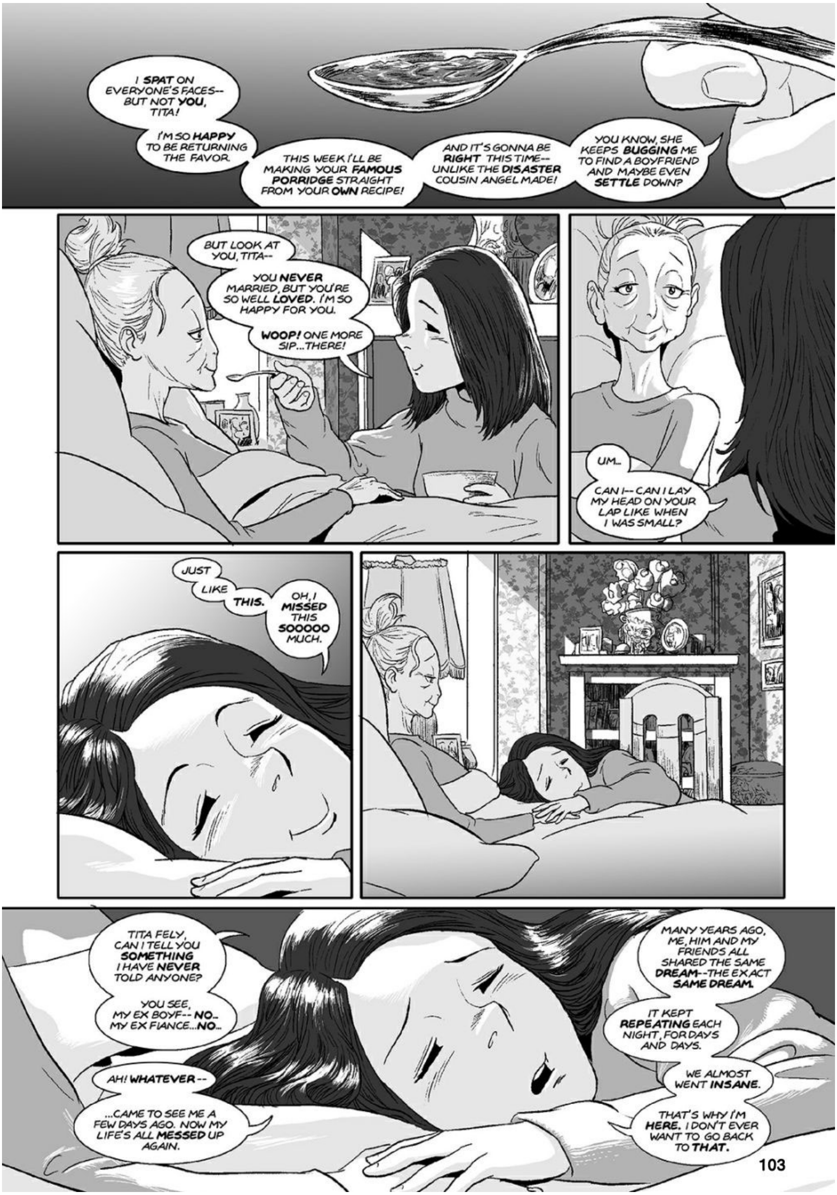
good luck Rey.

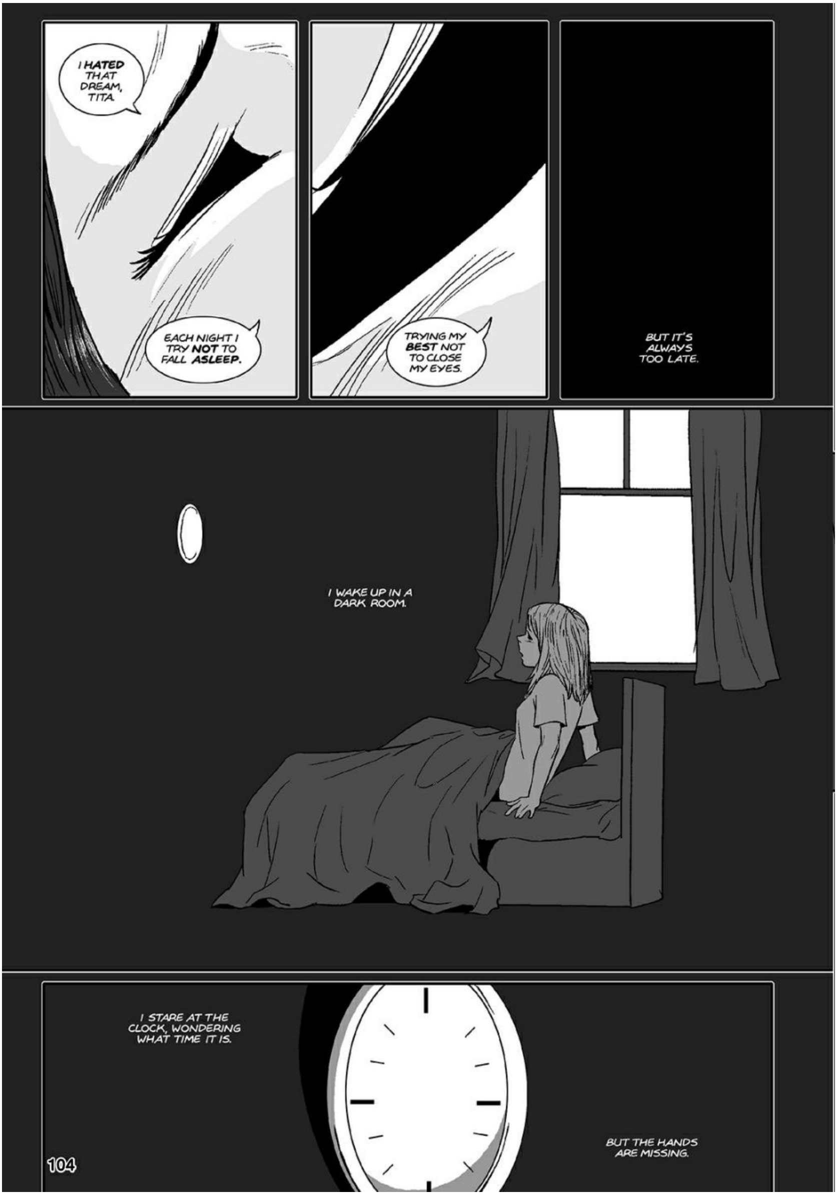

YEAH. YOU **TOO** FRED.

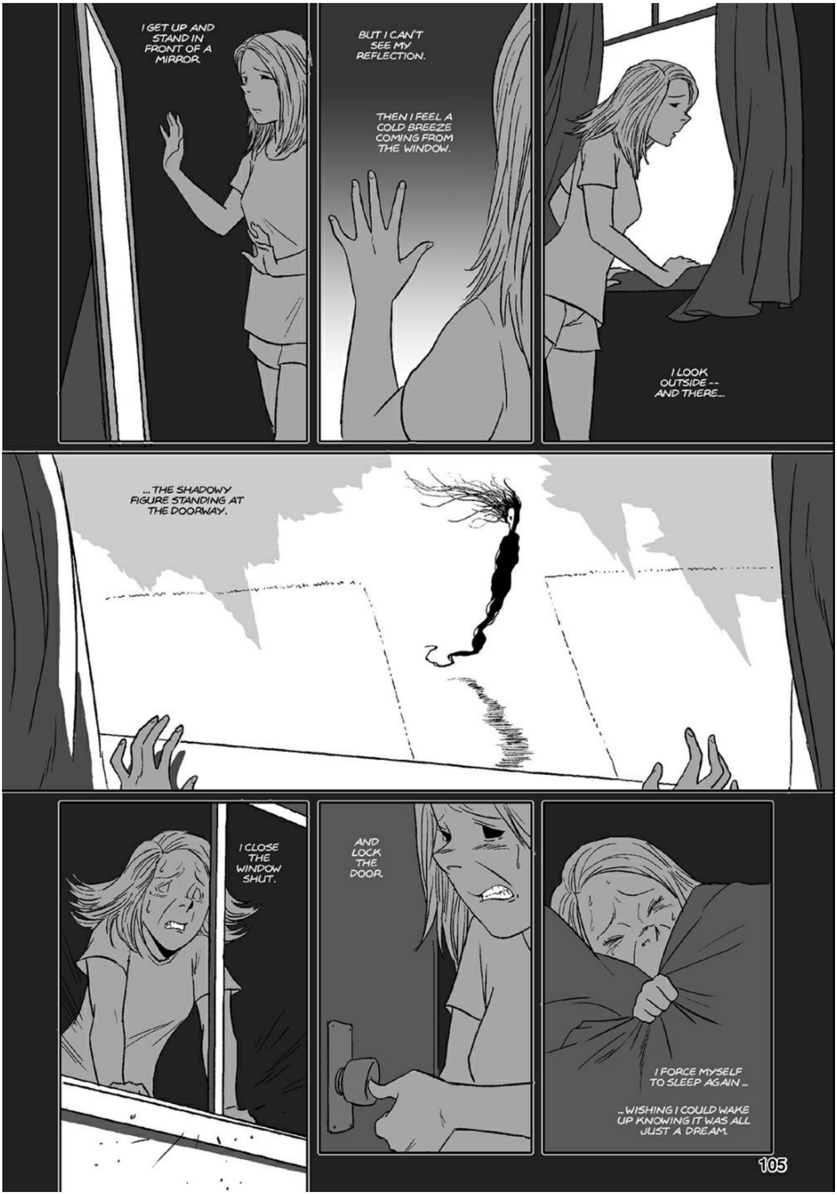

~~Aug~~
~~Sep~~
~~Oct~~
~~Nov~~
~~Dec~~
~~Jan~~
Feb

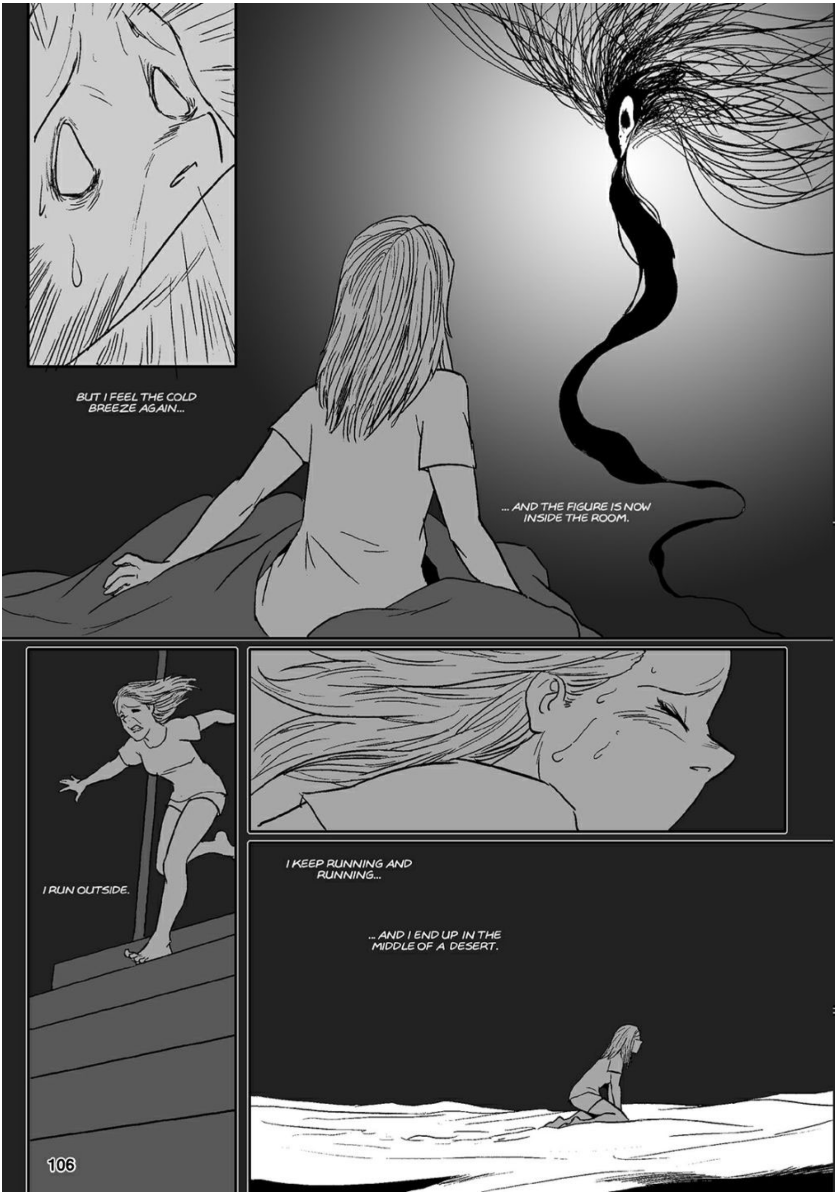


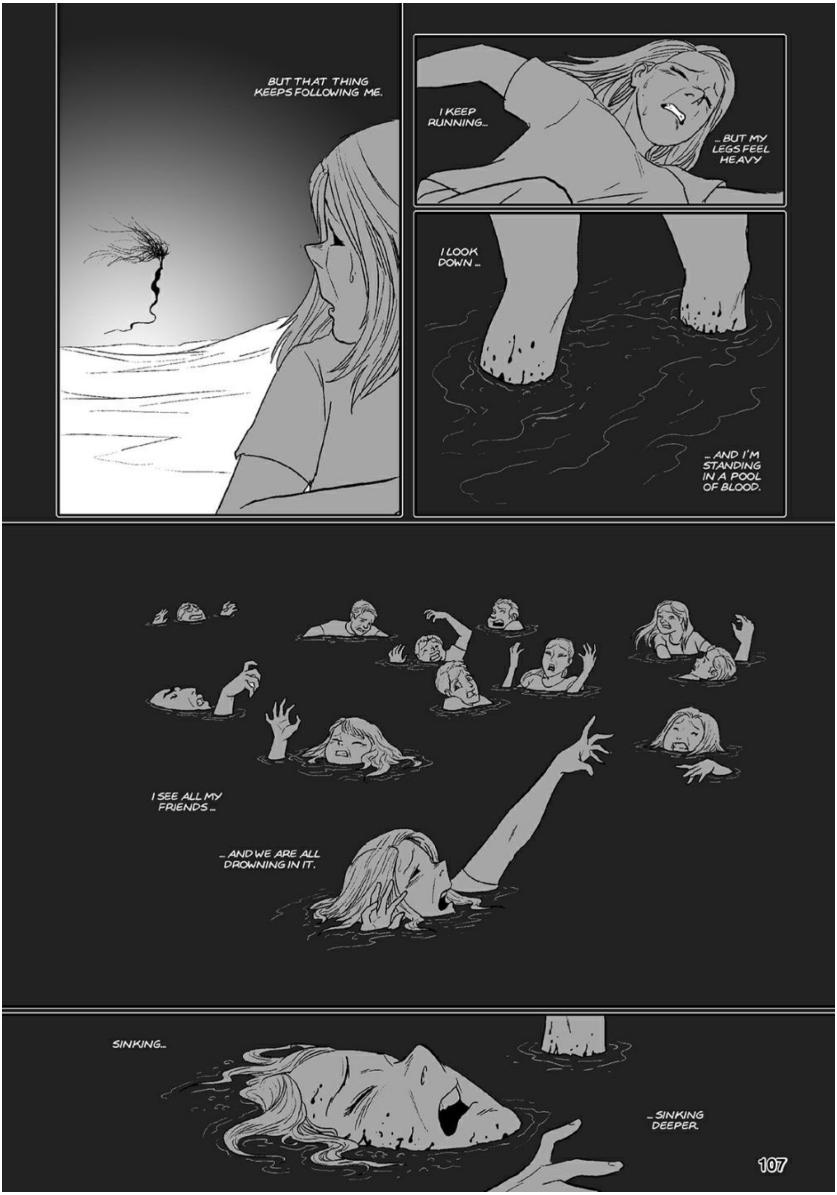

"HAVE I TOLD YOU THAT **YOU** WERE THE ONLY AUNTIE I **ALLOWED** TO FEED ME WHEN I WAS SMALL BECAUSE YOU WERE MY **FAVORITE?**"

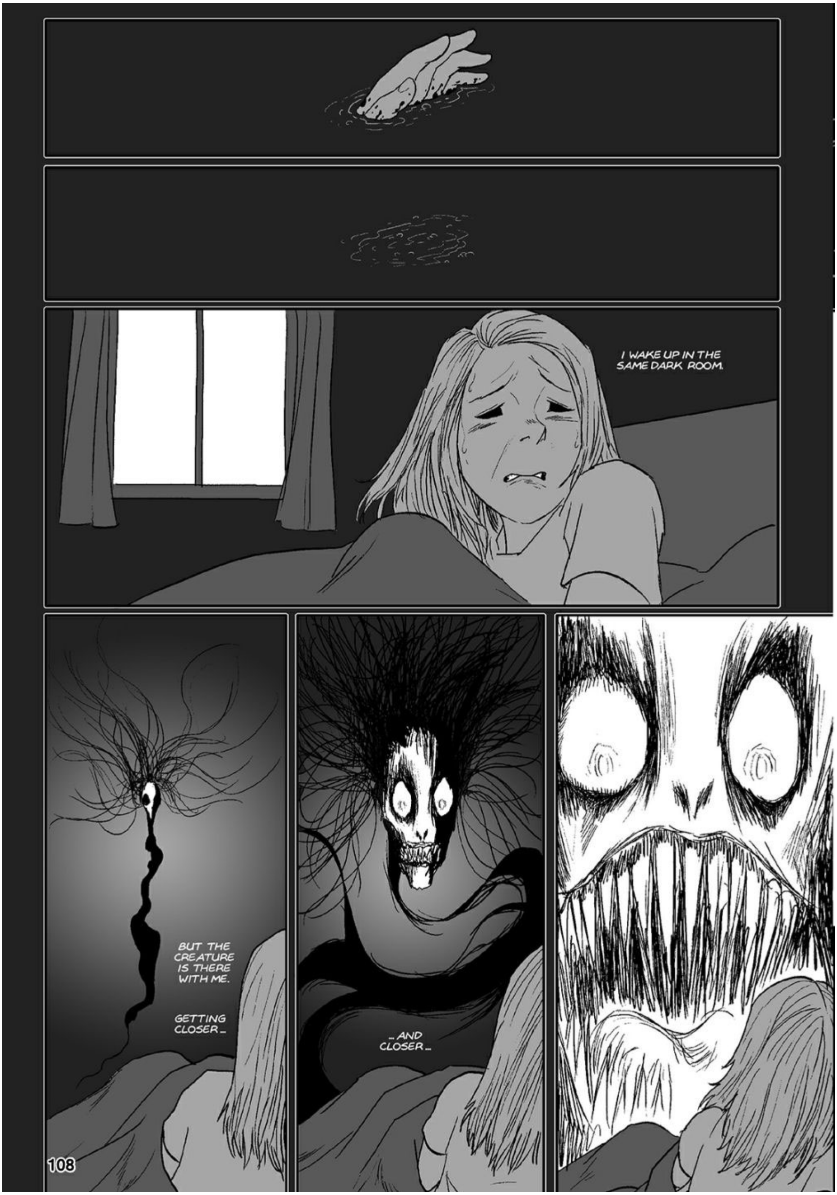

I SPAT ON EVERYONE'S FACES-- BUT NOT YOU, TITA!
I'M SO HAPPY TO BE RETURNING THE FAVOR.
THIS WEEK I'LL BE MAKING YOUR FAMOUS PORRIDGE STRAIGHT FROM YOUR OWN RECIPE!
AND IT'S GONNA BE RIGHT THIS TIME-- UNLIKE THE DISASTER COUSIN ANGEL MADE!
YOU KNOW, SHE KEEPS BUGGING ME TO FIND A BOYFRIEND AND MAYBE EVEN SETTLE DOWN?
BUT LOOK AT YOU, TITA--
YOU NEVER MARRIED, BUT YOU'RE SO WELL LOVED. I'M SO HAPPY FOR YOU.
WOOP! ONE MORE SIP...THERE!
UM..
CAN I-- CAN I LAY MY HEAD ON YOUR LAP LIKE WHEN I WAS SMALL?
JUST LIKE THIS.
OH, I MISSED THIS SOOOOO MUCH.
TITA FELY, CAN I TELL YOU SOMETHING I HAVE NEVER TOLD ANYONE?
YOU SEE, MY EX BOYF-- NO.. MY EX FIANCE...NO..
AH! WHATEVER --
...CAME TO SEE ME A FEW DAYS AGO. NOW MY LIFE'S ALL MESSED UP AGAIN.
MANY YEARS AGO, ME, HIM AND MY FRIENDS ALL SHARED THE SAME DREAM--THE EXACT SAME DREAM.
IT KEPT REPEATING EACH NIGHT, FOR DAYS AND DAYS.
WE ALMOST WENT INSANE.
THAT'S WHY I'M HERE. I DON'T EVER WANT TO GO BACK TO THAT.

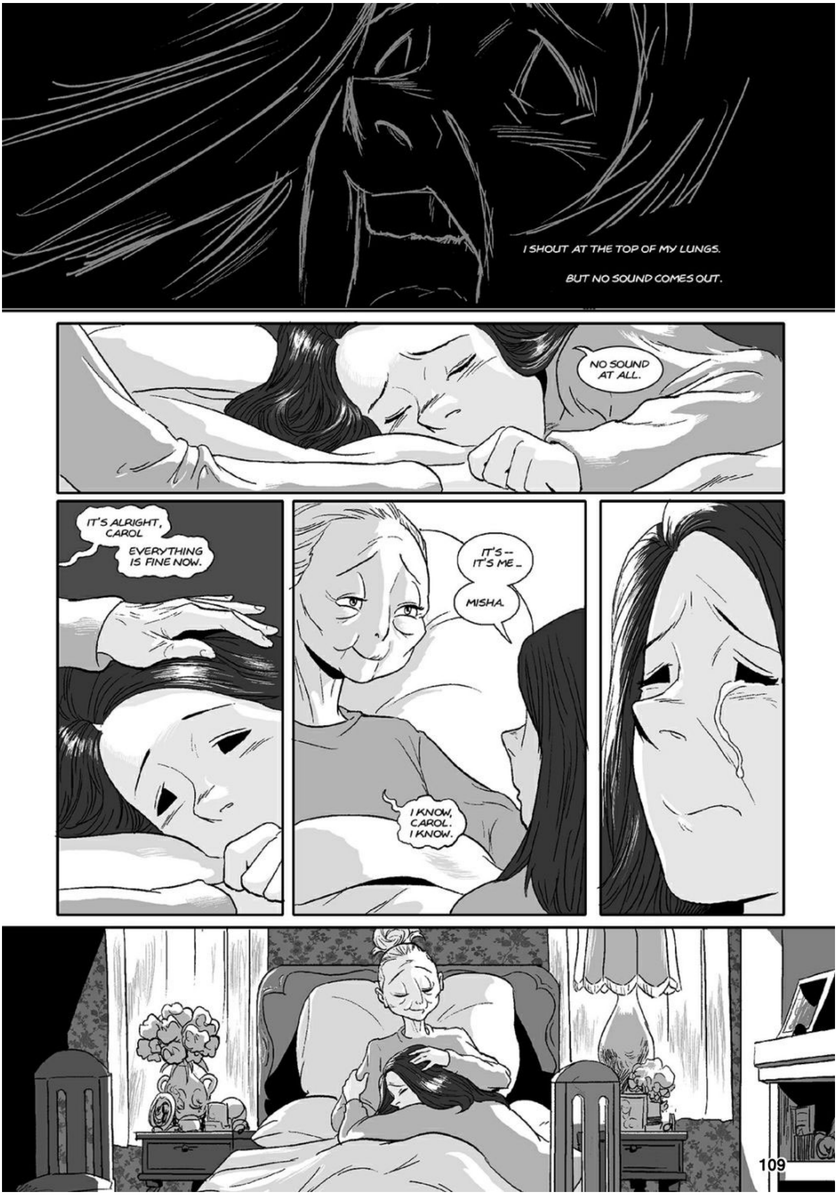

I HATED THAT DREAM, TITA.
EACH NIGHT I TRY NOT TO FALL ASLEEP.
TRYING MY BEST NOT TO CLOSE MY EYES.
BUT IT'S ALWAYS TOO LATE.
I WAKE UP IN A DARK ROOM.
I STARE AT THE CLOCK, WONDERING WHAT TIME IT IS.
BUT THE HANDS ARE MISSING.

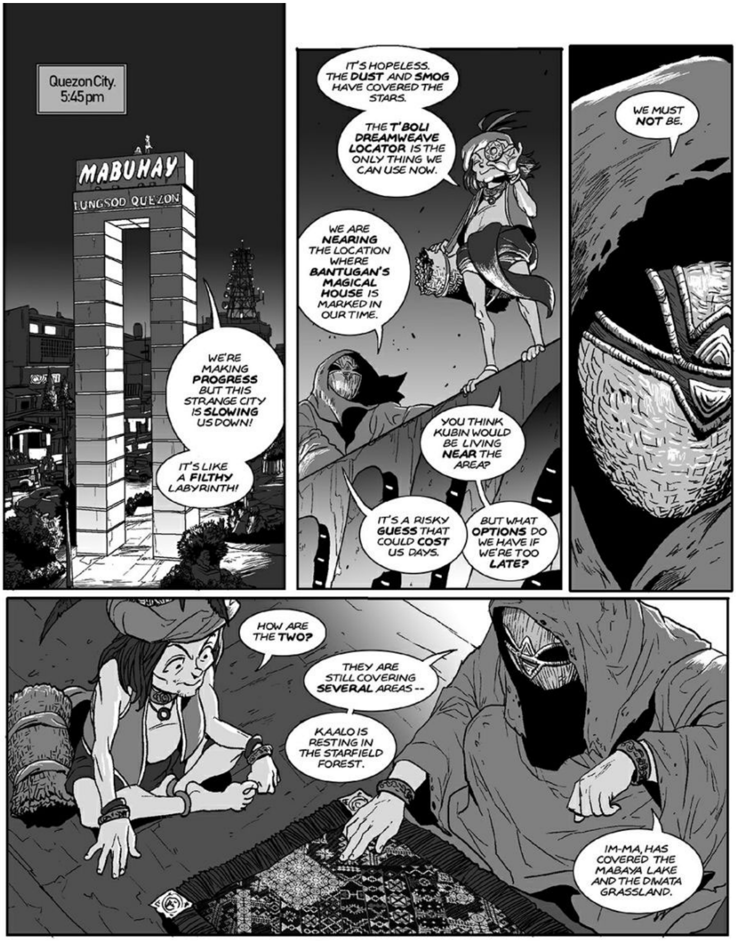

I GET UP AND STAND IN FRONT OF A MIRROR.
BUT I CAN'T SEE MY REFLECTION.
THEN I FEEL A COLD BREEZE COMING FROM THE WINDOW.
I LOOK OUTSIDE -- AND THERE...
... THE SHADOWY FIGURE STANDING AT THE DOORWAY.
I CLOSE THE WINDOW SHUT.
AND LOCK THE DOOR.
I FORCE MYSELF TO SLEEP AGAIN ...
... WISHING I COULD WAKE UP KNOWING IT WAS ALL JUST A DREAM.

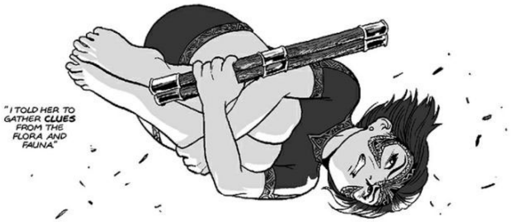

BUT I FEEL THE COLD BREEZE AGAIN...
... AND THE FIGURE IS NOW INSIDE THE ROOM.
I RUN OUTSIDE.
I KEEP RUNNING AND RUNNING...
.. AND I END UP IN THE MIDDLE OF A DESERT.

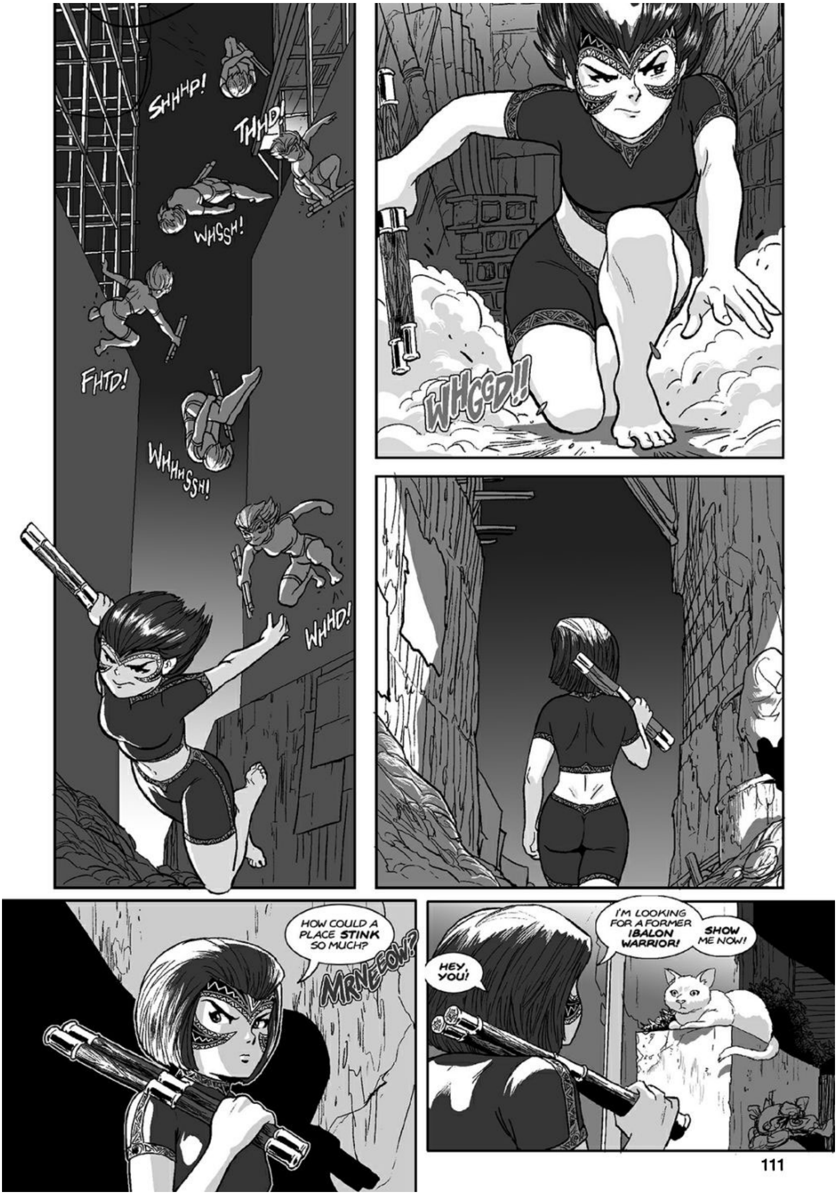

BUT THAT THING KEEPS FOLLOWING ME.
I KEEP RUNNING...
... BUT MY LEGS FEEL HEAVY
I LOOK DOWN ...
... AND I'M STANDING IN A POOL OF BLOOD.
I SEE ALL MY FRIENDS ...
... AND WE ARE ALL DROWNING IN IT.
SINKING...
...SINKING DEEPER.

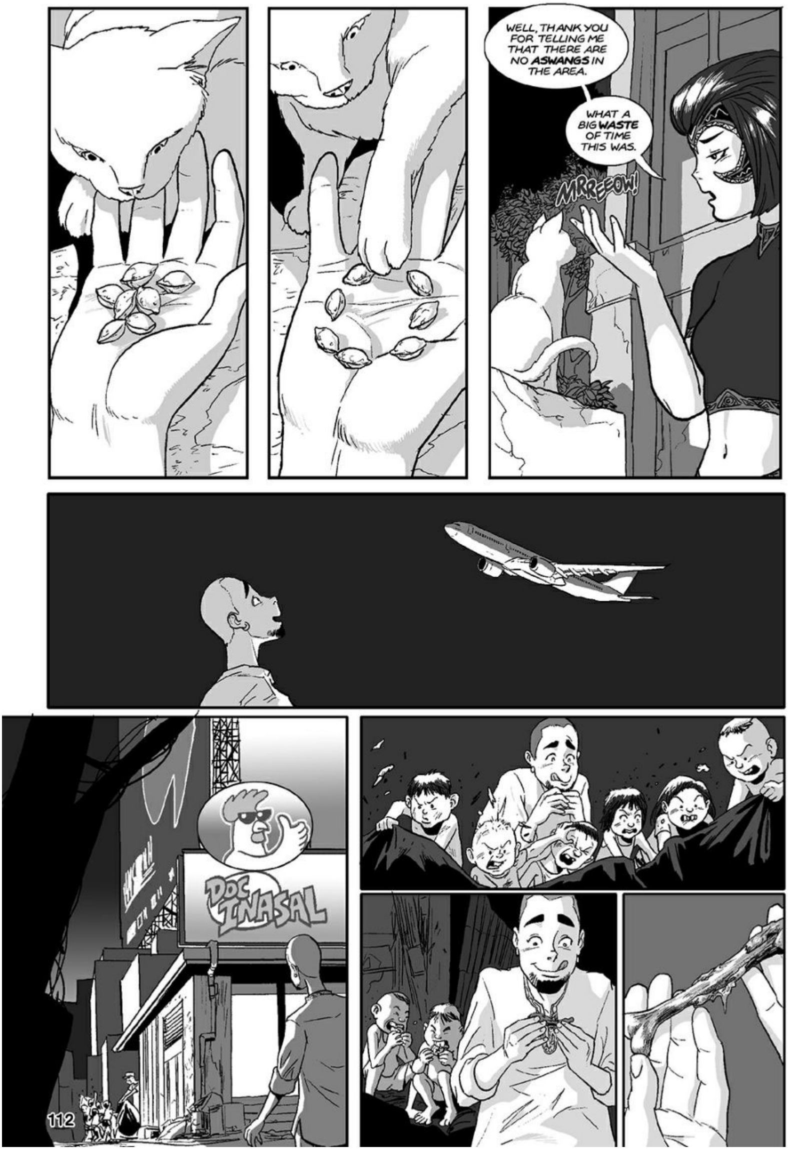

I WAKE UP IN THE SAME DARK ROOM.
BUT THE CREATURE IS THERE WITH ME.
GETTING CLOSER...
...AND CLOSER...

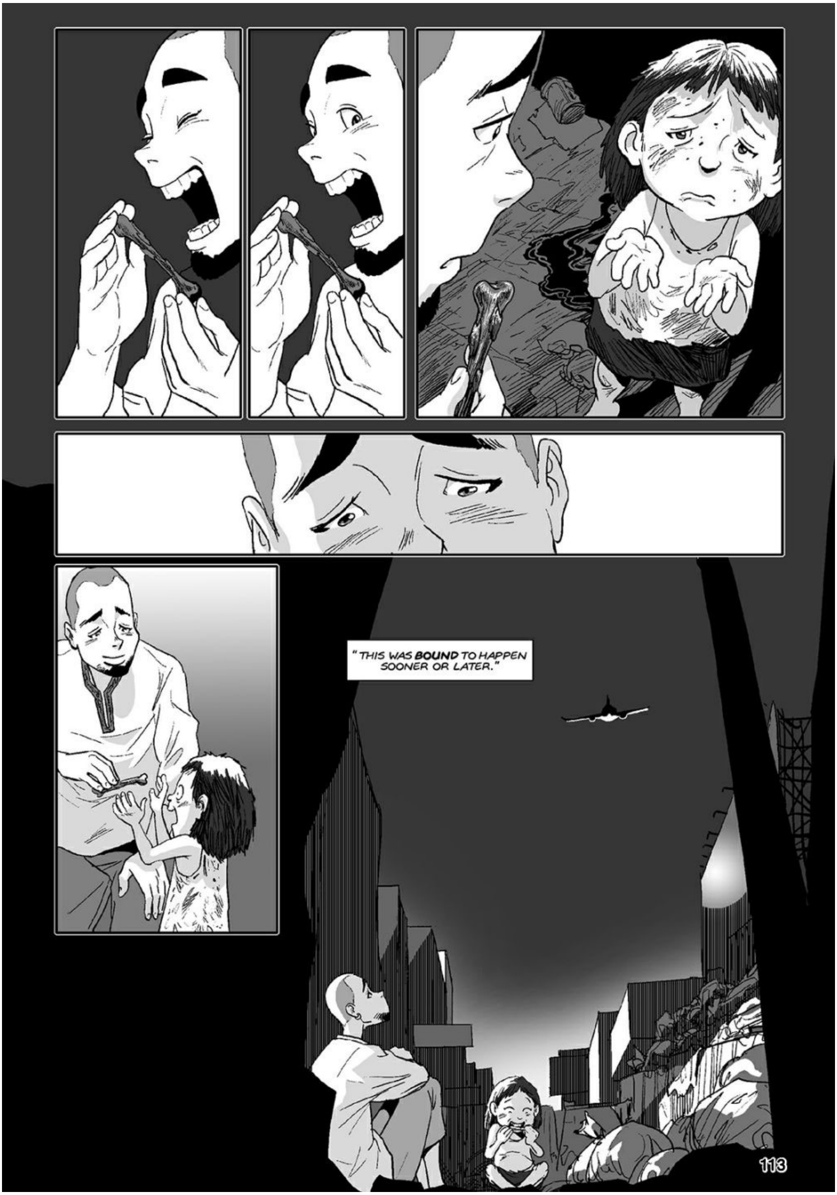

I SHOUT AT THE TOP OF MY LUNGS.
BUT NO SOUND COMES OUT.
NO SOUND AT ALL.
IT'S ALRIGHT, CAROL
EVERYTHING IS FINE NOW.
IT'S -- IT'S ME _
MISHA.
I KNOW, CAROL. I KNOW.

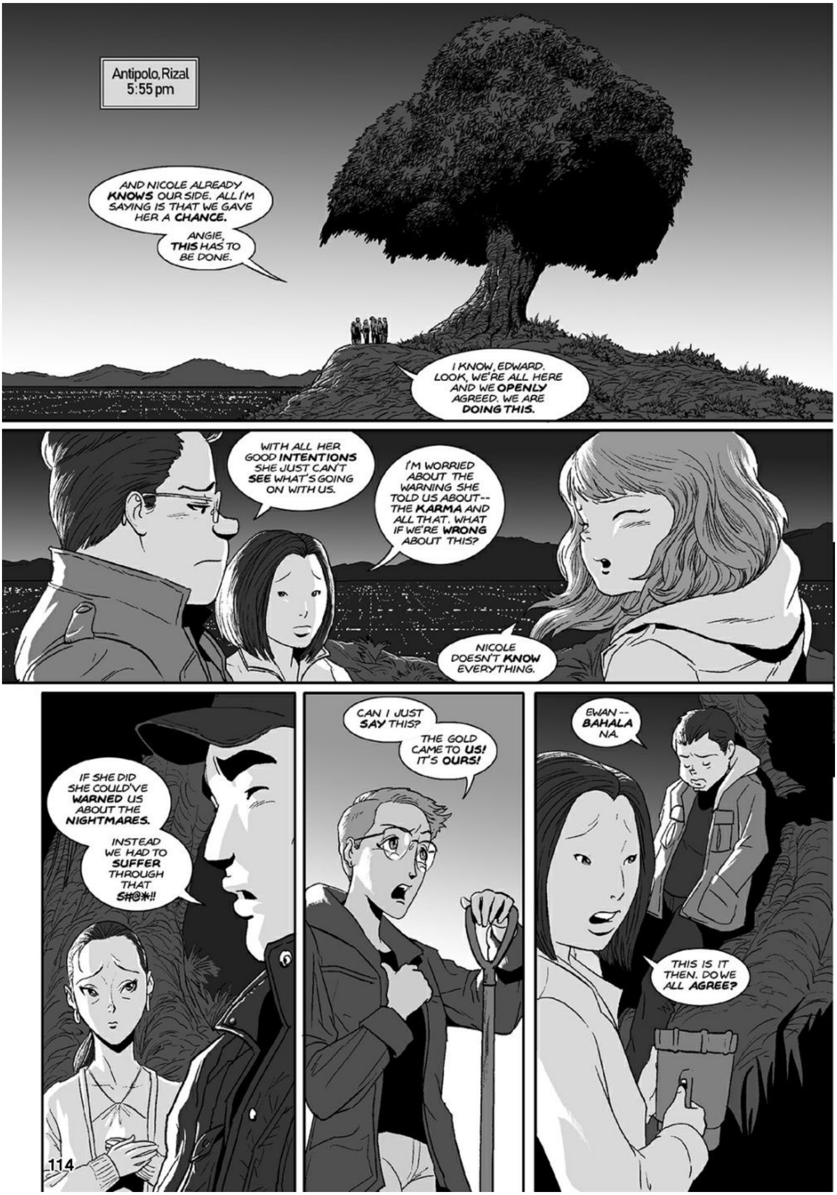

Quezon City.
5:45 pm
MABUHAY
LUNGSOD QUEZON
WE'RE MAKING **PROGRESS** BUT THIS STRANGE CITY IS **SLOWING** US DOWN!
IT'S LIKE A **FILTHY** LABYRINTH!
IT'S HOPELESS. THE **DUST** AND **SMOG** HAVE COVERED THE STARS.
THE **T'BOLI DREAMWEAVE LOCATOR** IS THE ONLY THING WE CAN USE NOW.
WE ARE **NEARING** THE LOCATION WHERE **BANTUGAN'S MAGICAL HOUSE** IS MARKED IN OUR TIME.
YOU THINK KUBIN WOULD BE LIVING **NEAR** THE AREA?
IT'S A RISKY **GUESS** THAT COULD **COST** US DAYS.
BUT WHAT **OPTIONS** DO WE HAVE IF WE'RE TOO **LATE?**
WE MUST **NOT** BE.
HOW ARE THE **TWO?**
THEY ARE STILL COVERING **SEVERAL** AREAS --
KAALO IS RESTING IN THE STARFIELD FOREST.
IM-MA, HAS COVERED THE MABAYA LAKE AND THE DIWATA GRASSLAND.

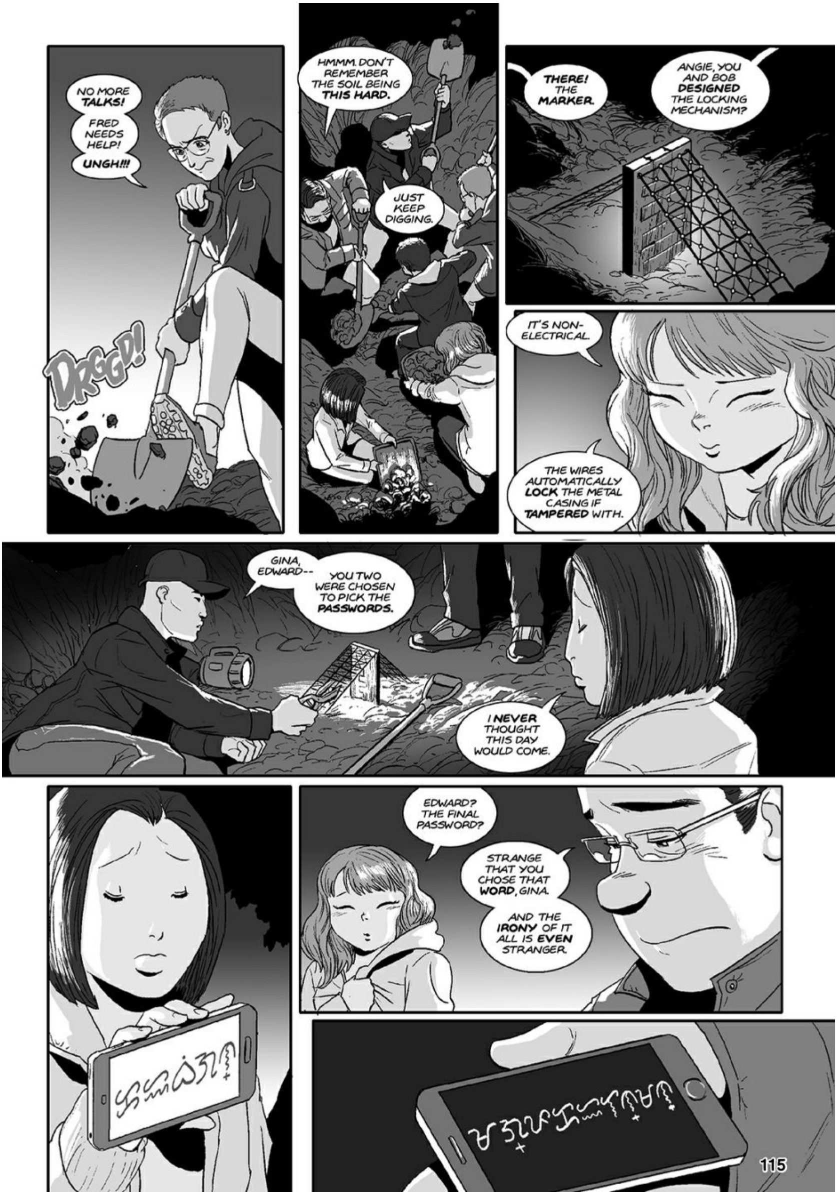

"I TOLD HER TO GATHER **CLUES** FROM THE FLORA AND FAUNA."

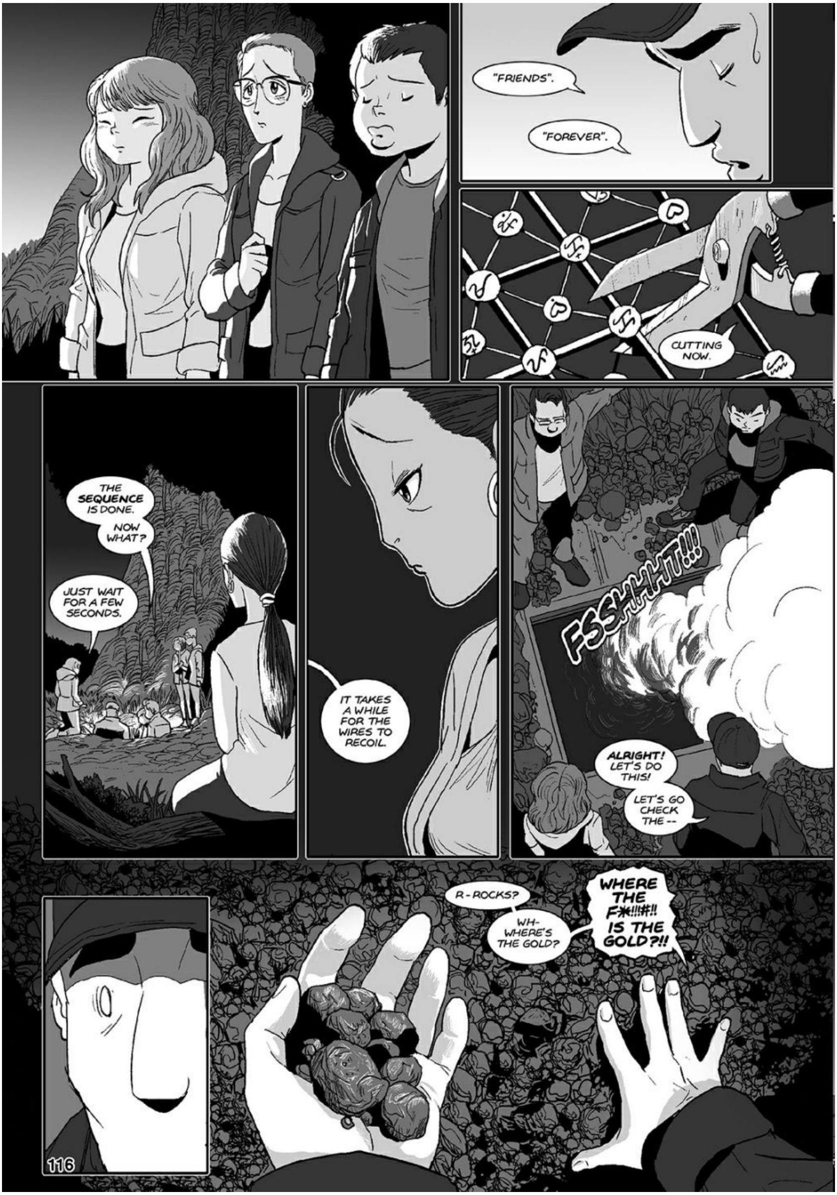

SHHHP!
THHD!
WHSSH!
FHTD!
WHHHSSH!
WHHD!
WHGGD!!
HOW COULD A PLACE **STINK** SO MUCH?
MRNEEOW?
HEY, YOU!
I'M LOOKING FOR A FORMER **IBALON WARRIOR!**
**SHOW** ME NOW!

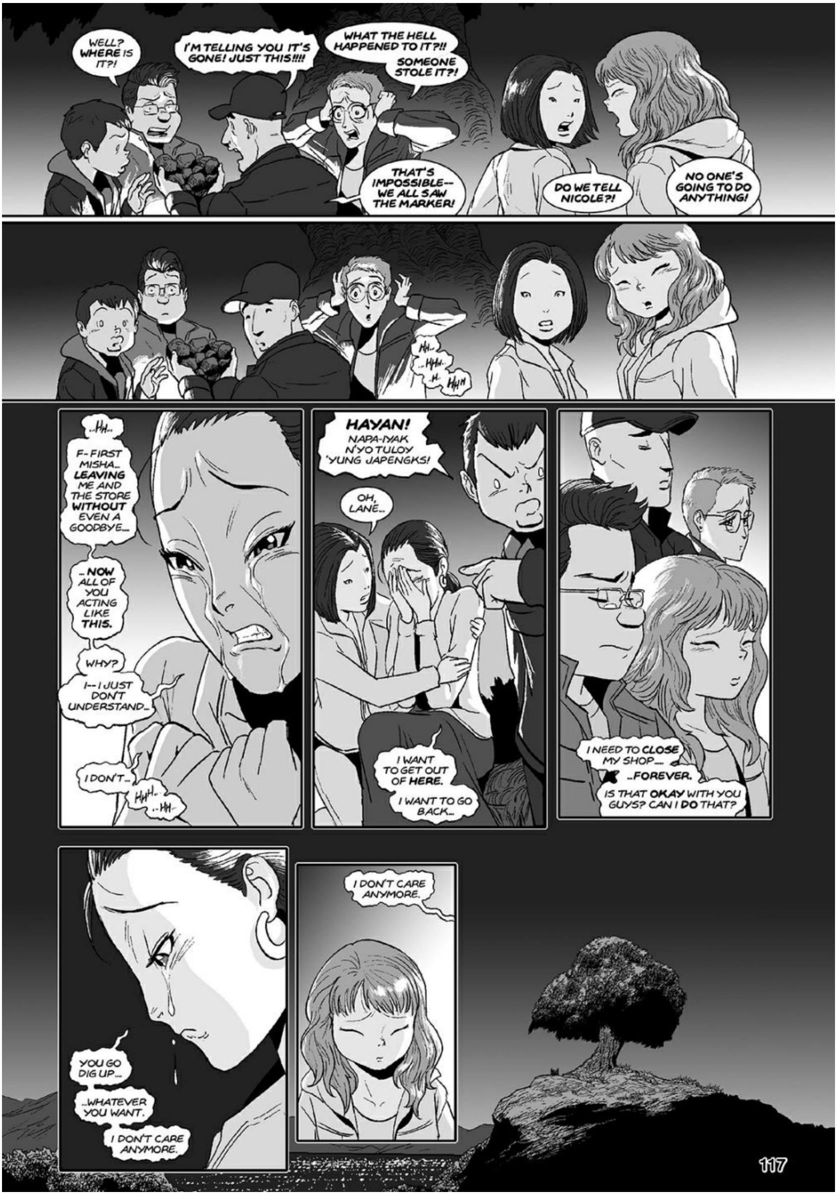

WELL, THANK YOU FOR TELLING ME THAT THERE ARE NO **ASWANGS** IN THE AREA.
WHAT A BIG **WASTE** OF TIME THIS WAS.
MRREEOW!
DOC INASAL

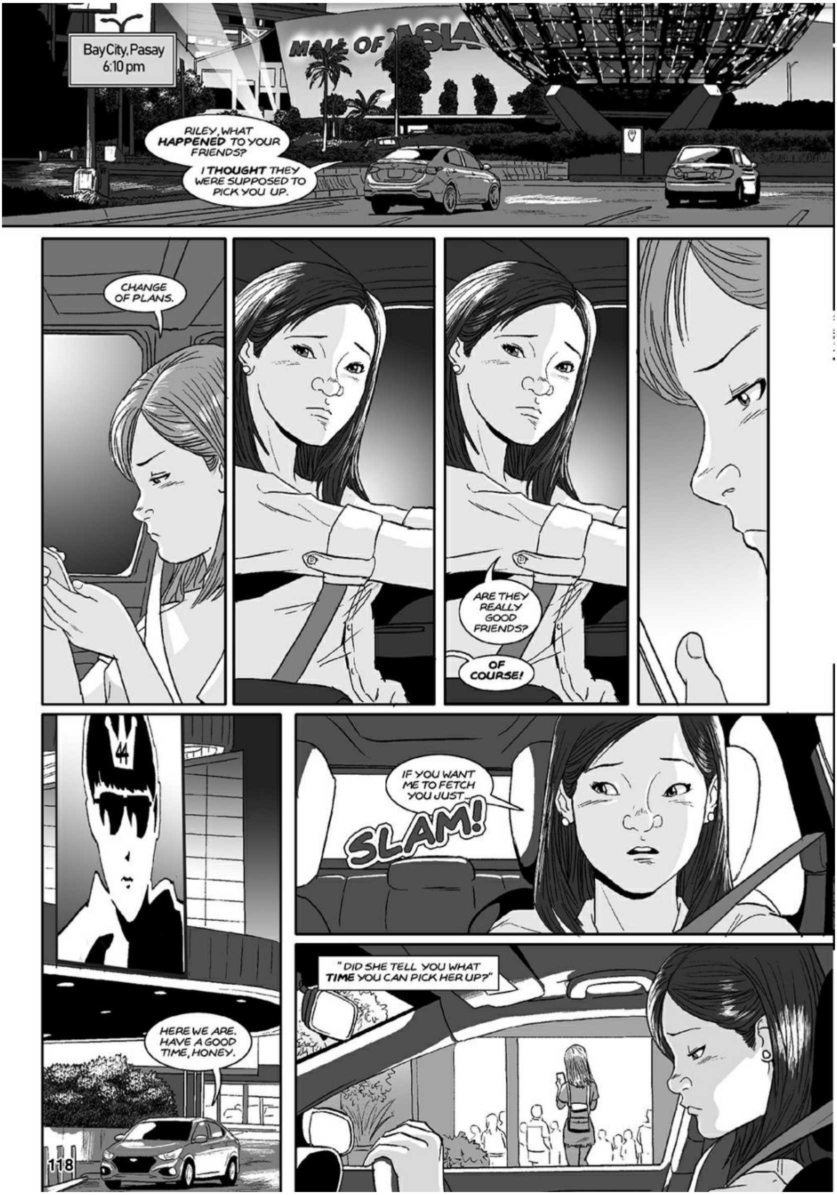

"THIS WAS **BOUND** TO HAPPEN SOONER OR LATER."

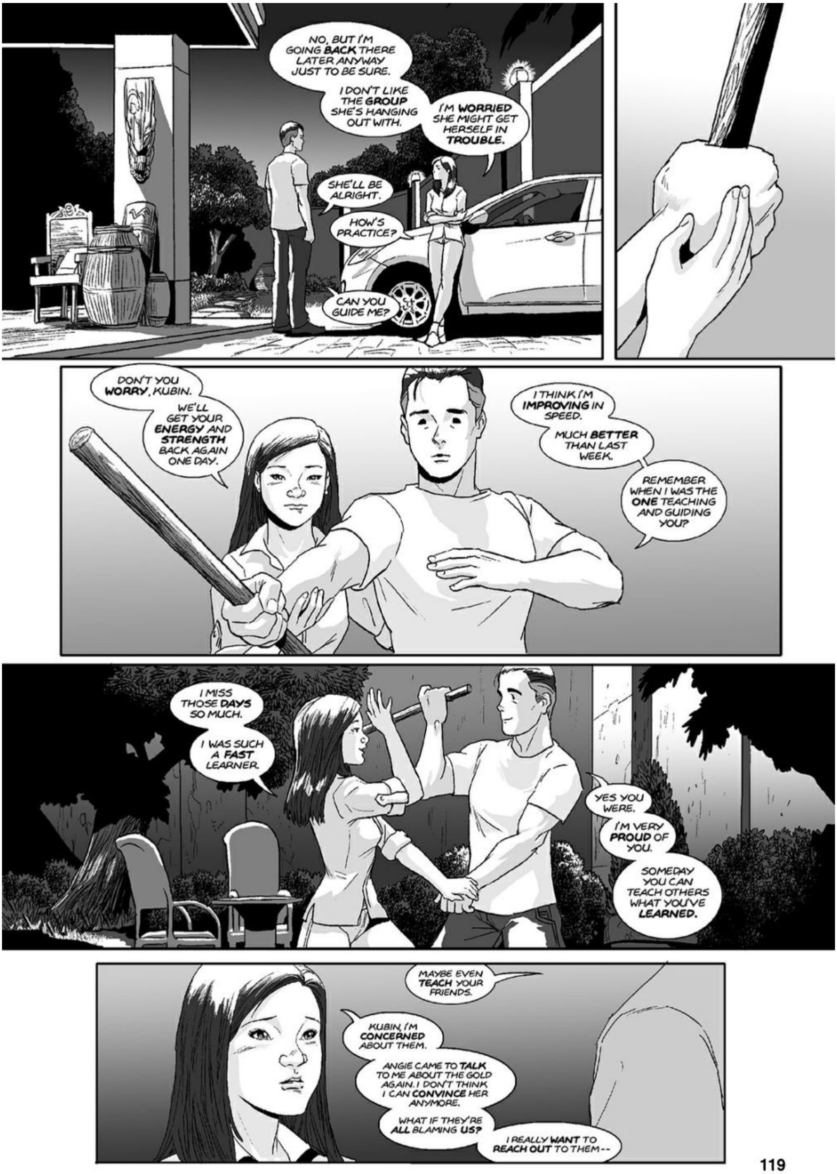

Antipolo, Rizal
5:55 pm
AND NICOLE ALREADY **KNOWS** OUR SIDE. ALL I'M SAYING IS THAT WE GAVE HER A **CHANCE.**
ANGIE, **THIS** HAS TO BE DONE.
I KNOW, EDWARD. LOOK, WE'RE ALL HERE AND WE **OPENLY** AGREED. WE ARE **DOING THIS.**
WITH ALL HER GOOD **INTENTIONS** SHE JUST CAN'T **SEE** WHAT'S GOING ON WITH US.
I'M WORRIED ABOUT THE WARNING SHE TOLD US ABOUT-- THE **KARMA** AND ALL THAT. WHAT IF WE'RE **WRONG** ABOUT THIS?
NICOLE DOESN'T **KNOW** EVERYTHING.
IF SHE DID SHE COULD'VE **WARNED** US ABOUT THE **NIGHTMARES.**
INSTEAD WE HAD TO **SUFFER** THROUGH THAT **S#@*!!**
CAN I JUST **SAY** THIS?
THE GOLD CAME TO **US!** IT'S **OURS!**
EWAN -- **BAHALA** NA.
THIS IS IT THEN. DO WE ALL **AGREE?**

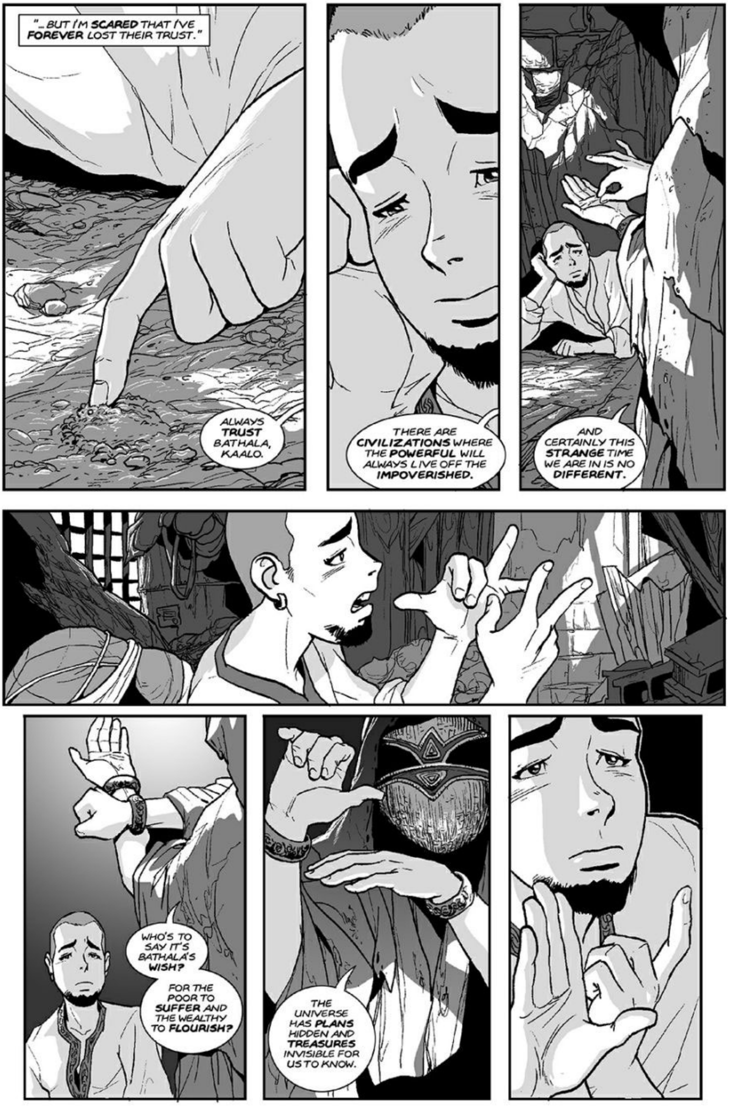

NO MORE TALKS!
FRED NEEDS HELP!
UNGH!!!
DRGGD!
HMMM. DON'T REMEMBER THE SOIL BEING THIS HARD.
JUST KEEP DIGGING.
THERE! THE MARKER.
ANGIE, YOU AND BOB DESIGNED THE LOCKING MECHANISM?
IT'S NON-ELECTRICAL.
THE WIRES AUTOMATICALLY LOCK THE METAL CASING IF TAMPERED WITH.
GINA, EDWARD--
YOU TWO WERE CHOSEN TO PICK THE PASSWORDS.
I NEVER THOUGHT THIS DAY WOULD COME.
EDWARD? THE FINAL PASSWORD?
STRANGE THAT YOU CHOSE THAT WORD, GINA.
AND THE IRONY OF IT ALL IS EVEN STRANGER.

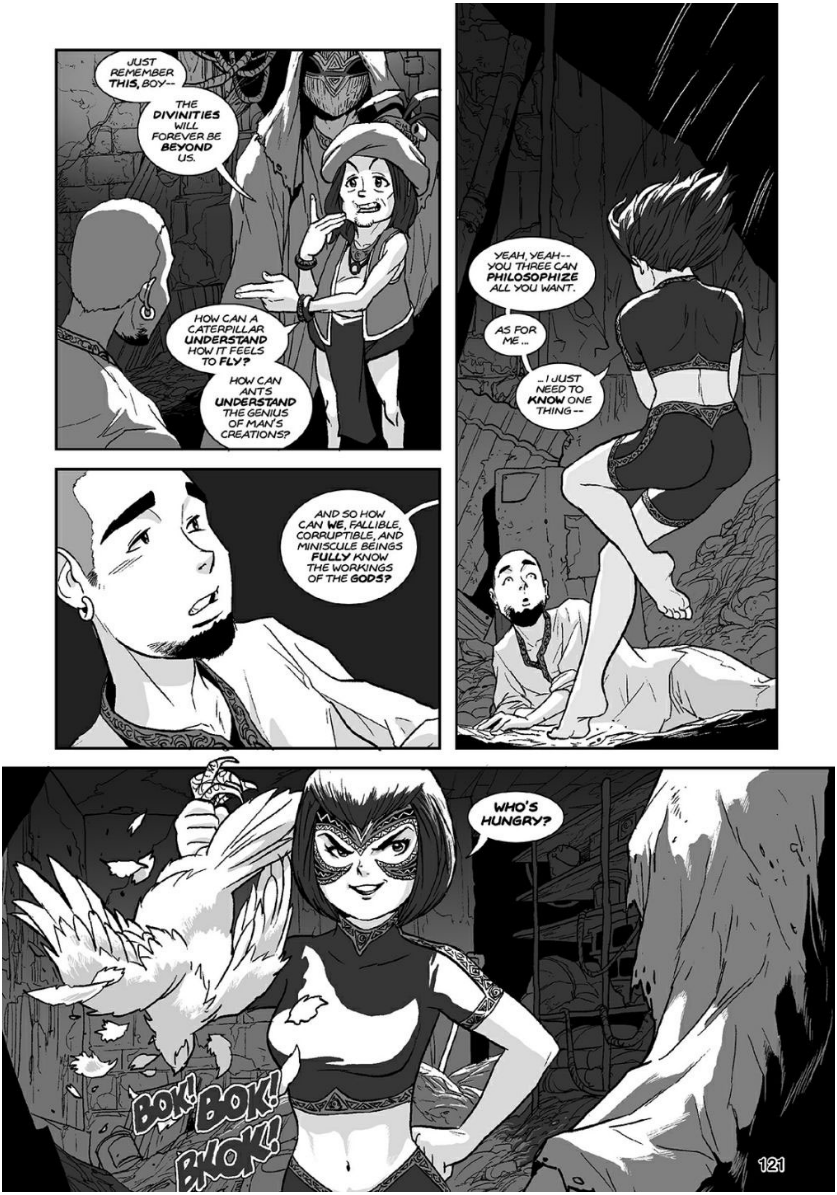

"FRIENDS".
"FOREVER".
CUTTING NOW.
THE SEQUENCE IS DONE.
NOW WHAT?
JUST WAIT FOR A FEW SECONDS.
IT TAKES A WHILE FOR THE WIRES TO RECOIL.
FSSHHHT!!!
ALRIGHT! LET'S DO THIS!
LET'S GO CHECK THE --
R-ROCKS?
WH- WHERE'S THE GOLD?
WHERE THE F*!!!#!! IS THE GOLD?!!

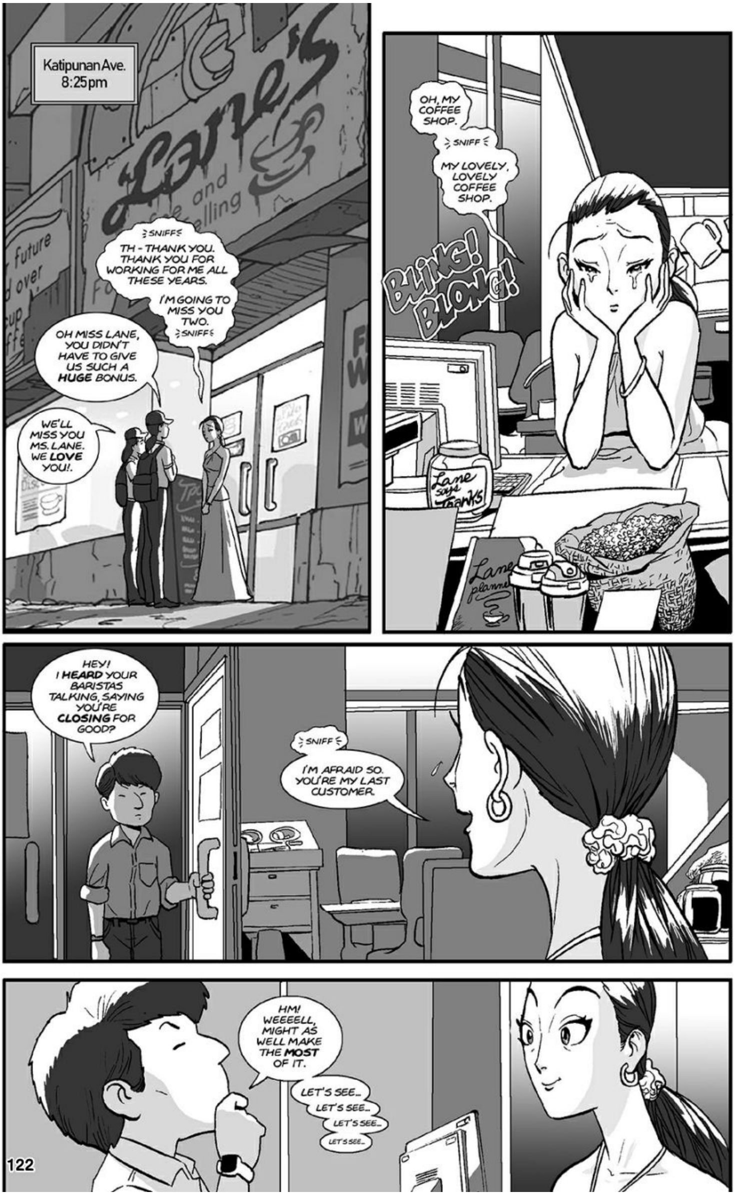

WELL? WHERE IS IT?!
I'M TELLING YOU IT'S GONE! JUST THIS!!!!
WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED TO IT?!!
SOMEONE STOLE IT?!
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE— WE ALL SAW THE MARKER!
DO WE TELL NICOLE?!
NO ONE'S GOING TO DO ANYTHING!
HH.. ..HHH.. ..H.. HHH
..HH..
F-FIRST MISHA.. LEAVING ME AND THE STORE WITHOUT EVEN A GOODBYE...
...NOW ALL OF YOU ACTING LIKE THIS.
WHY?
I-- I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND...
I DON'T...
HHH.. ..HH..
HAYAN! NAPA-IYAK N'YO TULOY 'YUNG JAPENGKS!
OH, LANE...
I WANT TO GET OUT OF HERE.
I WANT TO GO BACK...
I NEED TO CLOSE MY SHOP....
...FOREVER.
IS THAT OKAY WITH YOU GUYS? CAN I DO THAT?
YOU GO DIG UP....
...WHATEVER YOU WANT.
I DON'T CARE ANYMORE.
I DON'T CARE ANYMORE.

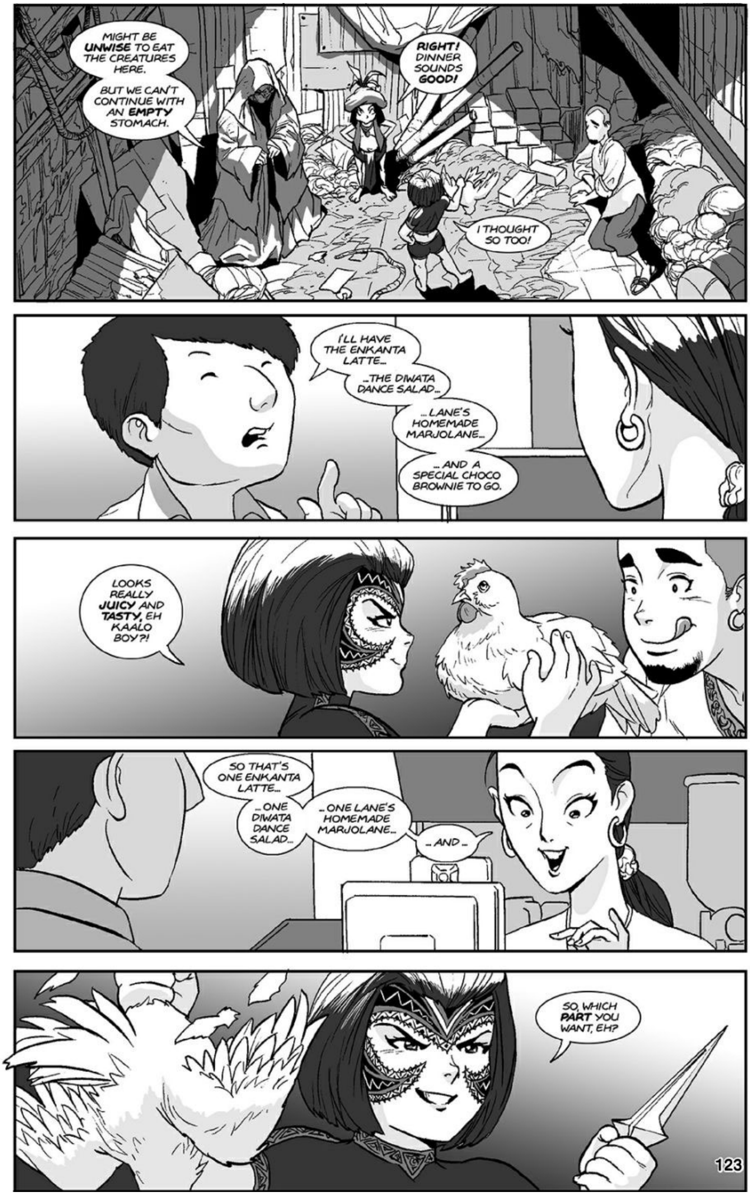

Bay City, Pasay
6:10 pm
MALL OF ASIA
RILEY, WHAT **HAPPENED** TO YOUR FRIENDS?
I **THOUGHT** THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO PICK YOU UP.
CHANGE OF PLANS.
ARE THEY REALLY GOOD FRIENDS?
OF COURSE!
44
HERE WE ARE. HAVE A GOOD TIME, HONEY.
IF YOU WANT ME TO FETCH YOU JUST...
SLAM!
"DID SHE TELL YOU WHAT **TIME** YOU CAN PICK HER UP?"

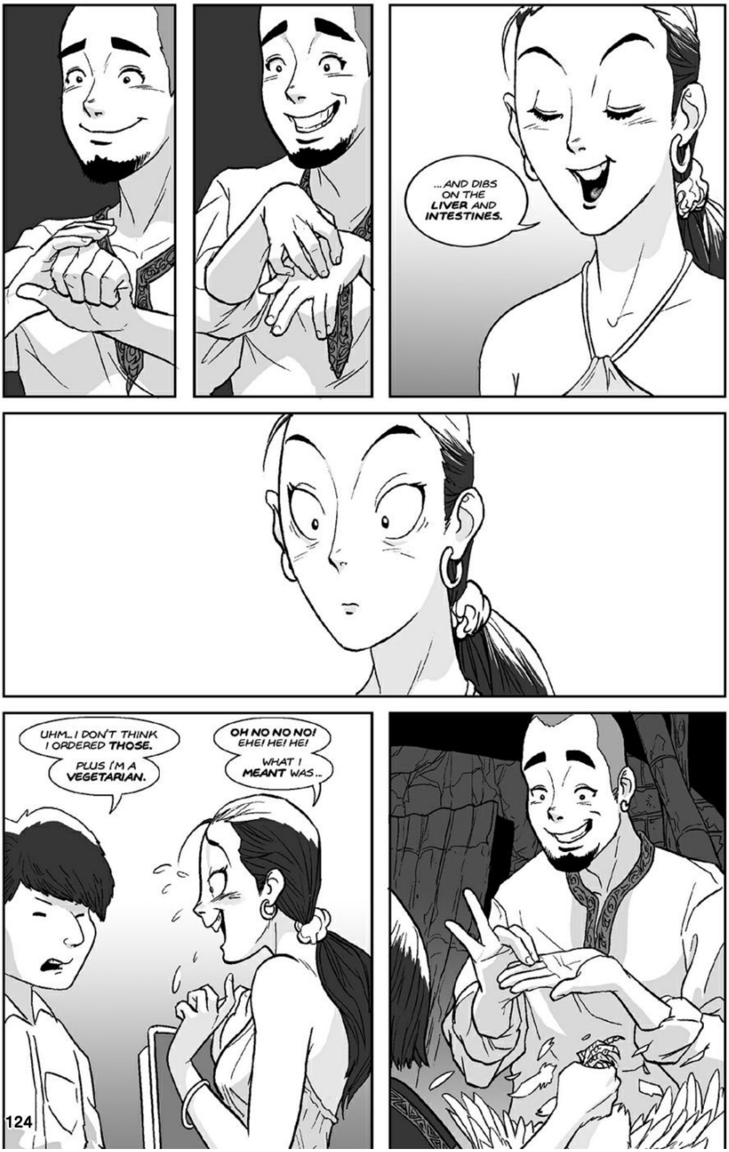

NO, BUT I'M GOING **BACK** THERE LATER ANYWAY JUST TO BE SURE.
I DON'T LIKE THE **GROUP** SHE'S HANGING OUT WITH.
I'M **WORRIED** SHE MIGHT GET HERSELF IN **TROUBLE.**
SHE'LL BE ALRIGHT.
HOW'S PRACTICE?
CAN YOU GUIDE ME?
DON'T YOU **WORRY**, KUBIN.
WE'LL GET YOUR **ENERGY** AND **STRENGTH** BACK AGAIN ONE DAY.
I THINK I'M **IMPROVING** IN SPEED.
MUCH **BETTER** THAN LAST WEEK.
REMEMBER WHEN I WAS THE **ONE** TEACHING AND GUIDING YOU?
I MISS THOSE **DAYS** SO MUCH.
I WAS SUCH A **FAST** LEARNER.
YES YOU WERE.
I'M VERY **PROUD** OF YOU.
SOMEDAY YOU CAN TEACH OTHERS WHAT YOU'VE **LEARNED.**
MAYBE EVEN **TEACH** YOUR FRIENDS.
KUBIN, I'M **CONCERNED** ABOUT THEM.
ANGIE CAME TO **TALK** TO ME ABOUT THE GOLD AGAIN. I DON'T THINK I CAN **CONVINCE** HER ANYMORE.
WHAT IF THEY'RE **ALL** BLAMING **US?**
I REALLY **WANT** TO **REACH OUT** TO THEM--

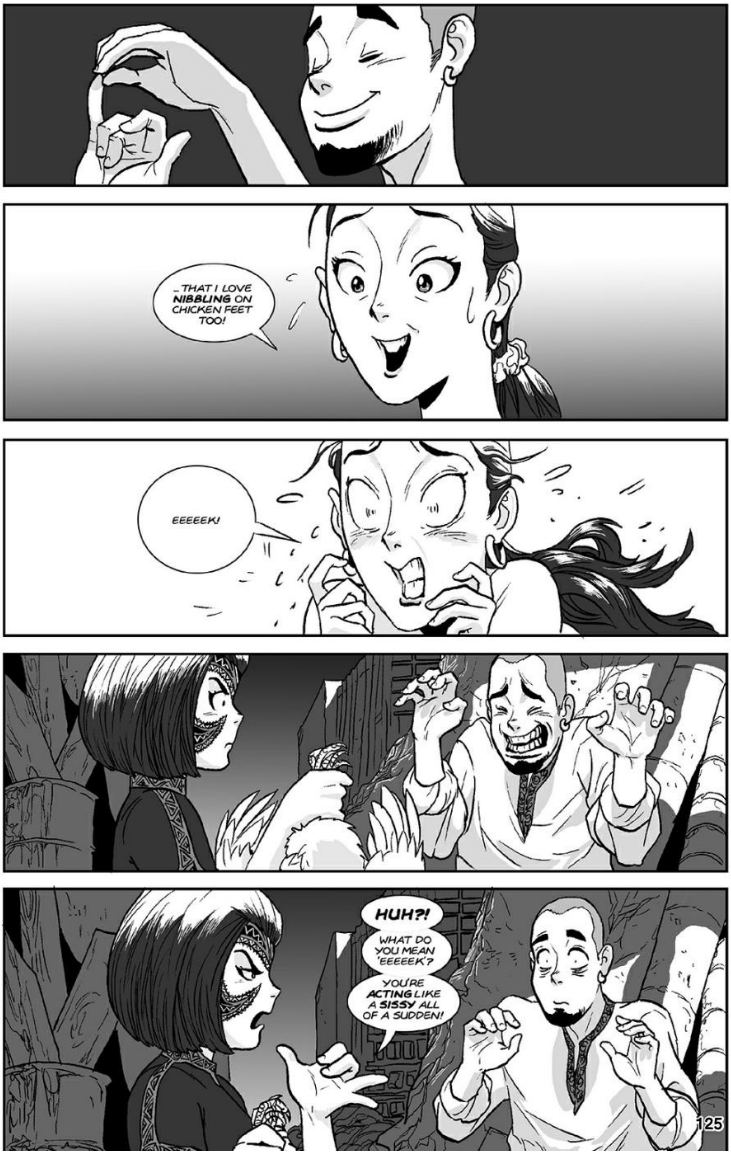

"... BUT I'M SCARED THAT I'VE FOREVER LOST THEIR TRUST."
ALWAYS TRUST BATHALA, KAALO.
THERE ARE CIVILIZATIONS WHERE THE POWERFUL WILL ALWAYS LIVE OFF THE IMPOVERISHED.
AND CERTAINLY THIS STRANGE TIME WE ARE IN IS NO DIFFERENT.
WHO'S TO SAY IT'S BATHALA'S WISH?
FOR THE POOR TO SUFFER AND THE WEALTHY TO FLOURISH?
THE UNIVERSE HAS PLANS HIDDEN AND TREASURES INVISIBLE FOR US TO KNOW.

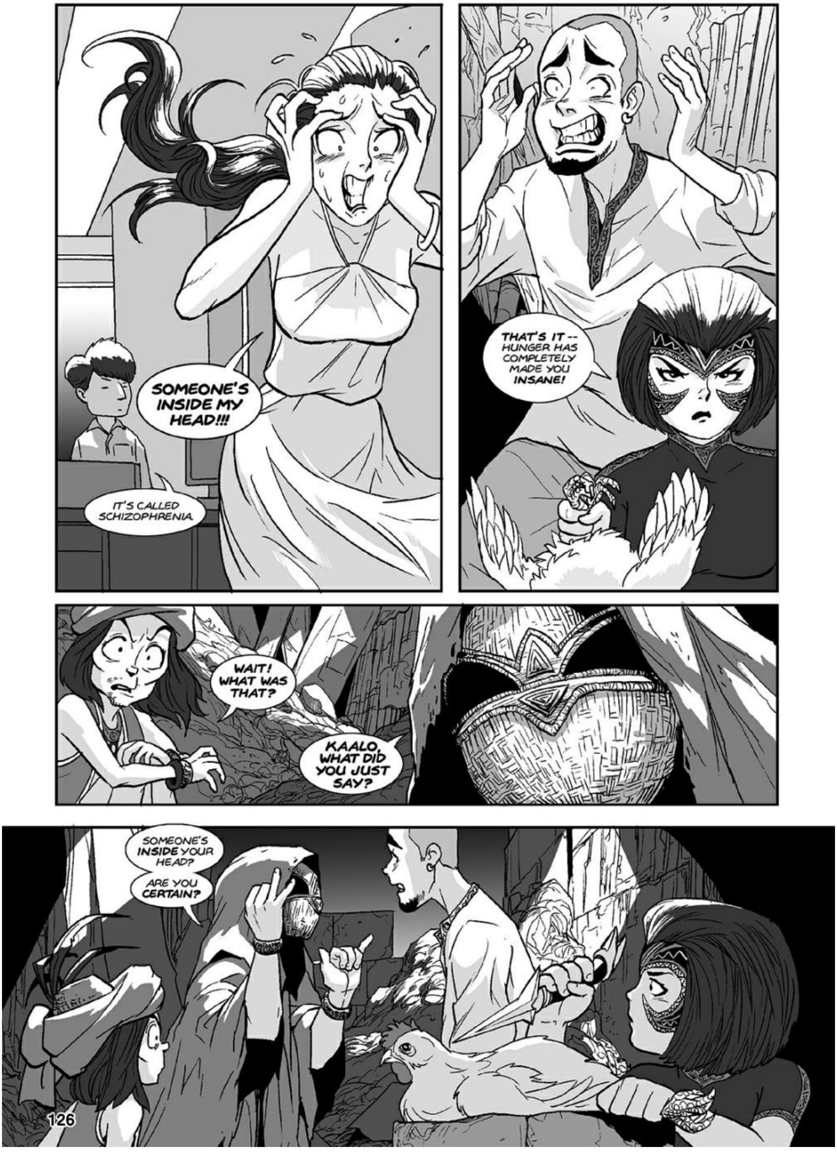

JUST REMEMBER THIS, BOY--
THE DIVINITIES WILL FOREVER BE BEYOND US.
HOW CAN A CATERPILLAR UNDERSTAND HOW IT FEELS TO FLY?
HOW CAN ANTS UNDERSTAND THE GENIUS OF MAN'S CREATIONS?
AND SO HOW CAN WE, FALLIBLE, CORRUPTIBLE, AND MINISCULE BEINGS FULLY KNOW THE WORKINGS OF THE GODS?
YEAH, YEAH-- YOU THREE CAN PHILOSOPHIZE ALL YOU WANT.
AS FOR ME...
...I JUST NEED TO KNOW ONE THING--
WHO'S HUNGRY?
BOK! BOK! BKOK!

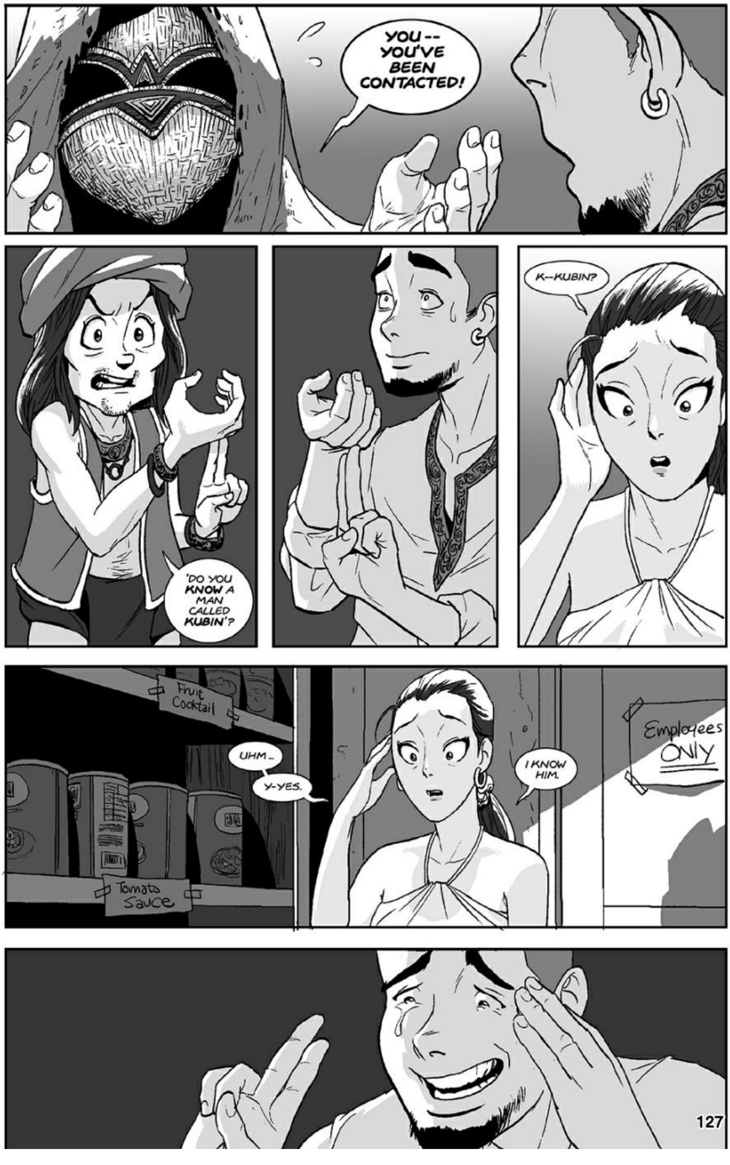

Katipunan Ave.
8:25pm
Lane's
Cafe and ...elling
SNIFF
TH - THANK YOU. THANK YOU FOR WORKING FOR ME ALL THESE YEARS.
I'M GOING TO MISS YOU TWO.
SNIFF
OH MISS LANE, YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO GIVE US SUCH A **HUGE** BONUS.
WE'LL MISS YOU MS. LANE. WE **LOVE** YOU!.
OH, MY COFFEE SHOP.
SNIFF
MY LOVELY, LOVELY COFFEE SHOP.
BLING! BLONG!
Lane says Thanks
Lane planner
HEY! I **HEARD** YOUR BARISTAS TALKING, SAYING YOU'RE **CLOSING** FOR GOOD?
SNIFF
I'M AFRAID SO. YOU'RE MY LAST CUSTOMER.
HM! WEEEELL, MIGHT AS WELL MAKE THE **MOST** OF IT.
LET'S SEE..
LET'S SEE..
LET'S SEE..
LET'S SEE..

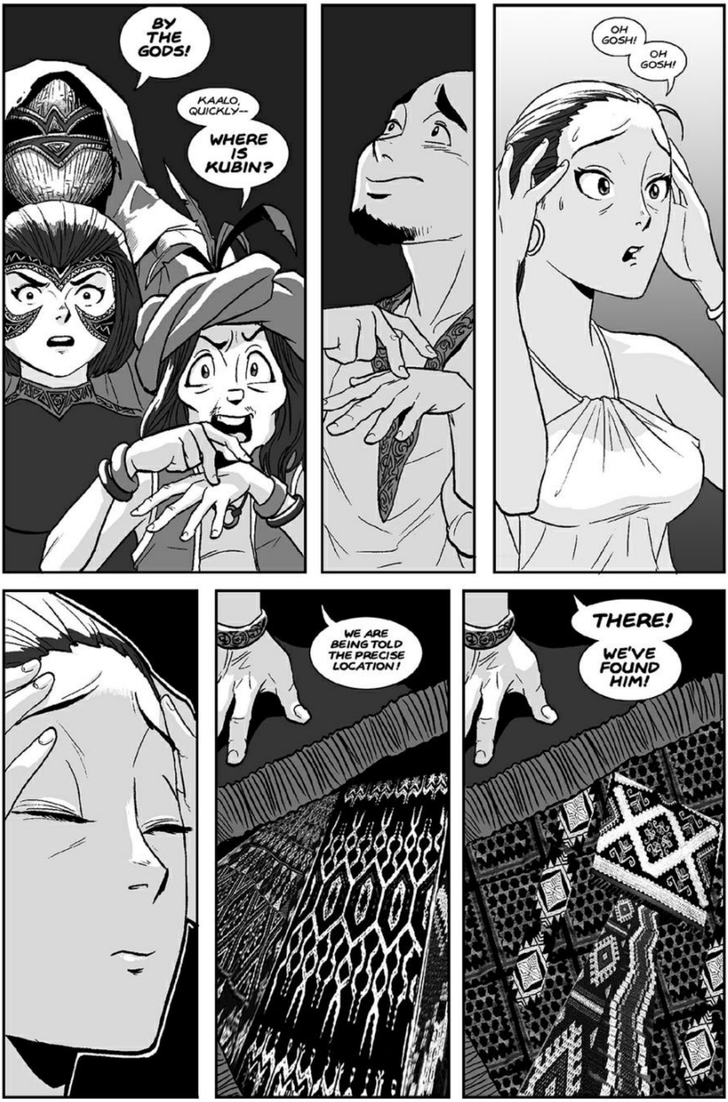

MIGHT BE **UNWISE** TO EAT THE CREATURES HERE.
BUT WE CAN'T CONTINUE WITH AN **EMPTY** STOMACH.
**RIGHT!** DINNER SOUNDS **GOOD!**
I THOUGHT SO TOO!
I'LL HAVE THE ENKANTA LATTE...
...THE DIWATA DANCE SALAD...
... LANE'S HOMEMADE MARJOLANE...
... AND A SPECIAL CHOCO BROWNIE TO GO.
LOOKS REALLY **JUICY** AND **TASTY,** EH KAALO BOY?!
SO THAT'S ONE ENKANTA LATTE...
... ONE DIWATA DANCE SALAD...
... ONE LANE'S HOMEMADE MARJOLANE...
... AND ...
SO, WHICH **PART** YOU WANT, EH?

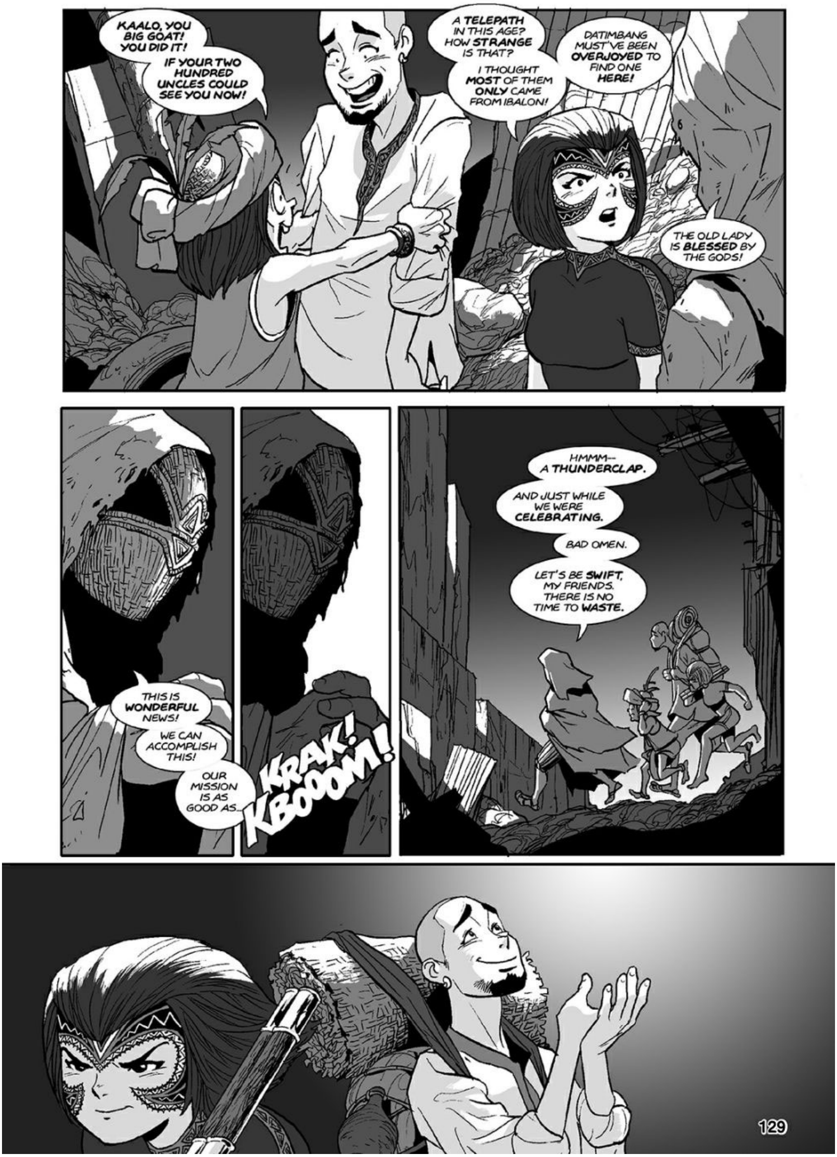

...AND DIBS ON THE **LIVER** AND **INTESTINES.**
UHM... I DON'T THINK I ORDERED **THOSE.**
PLUS I'M A **VEGETARIAN.**
**OH NO NO NO!** EHE! HE! HE!
WHAT I **MEANT** WAS...

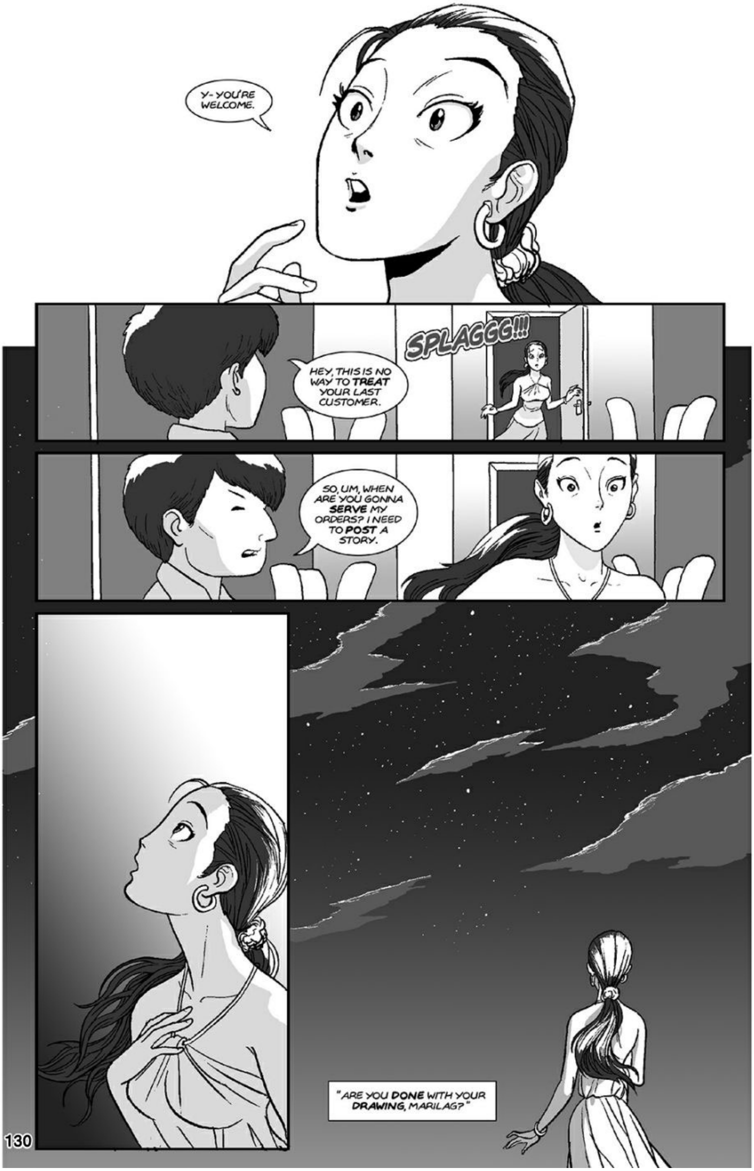

...THAT I LOVE **NIBBLING** ON CHICKEN FEET TOO!
EEEEEK!
**HUH?!**
WHAT DO YOU MEAN 'EEEEEK'?
YOU'RE **ACTING** LIKE A **SISSY** ALL OF A SUDDEN!

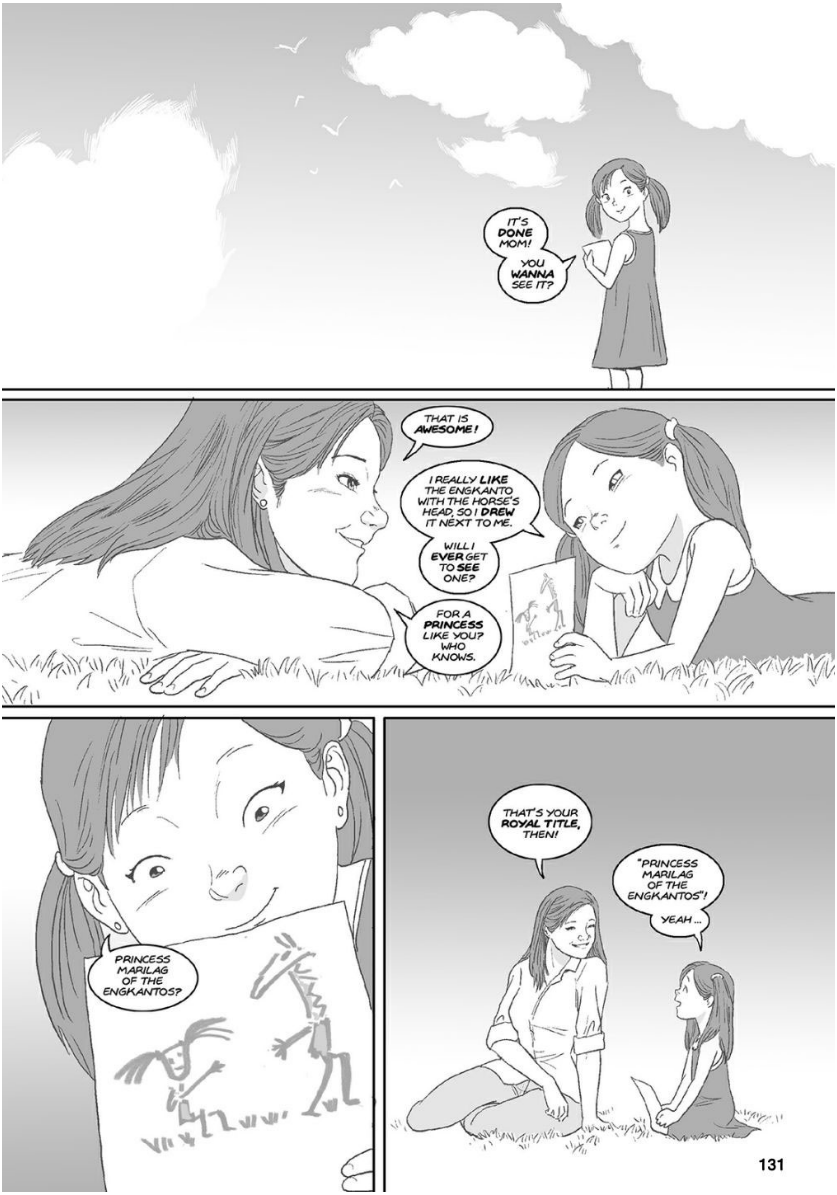

SOMEONE'S INSIDE MY HEAD!!!
IT'S CALLED SCHIZOPHRENIA
THAT'S IT -- HUNGER HAS COMPLETELY MADE YOU INSANE!
WAIT! WHAT WAS THAT?
KAALO, WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY?
SOMEONE'S INSIDE YOUR HEAD?
ARE YOU CERTAIN?

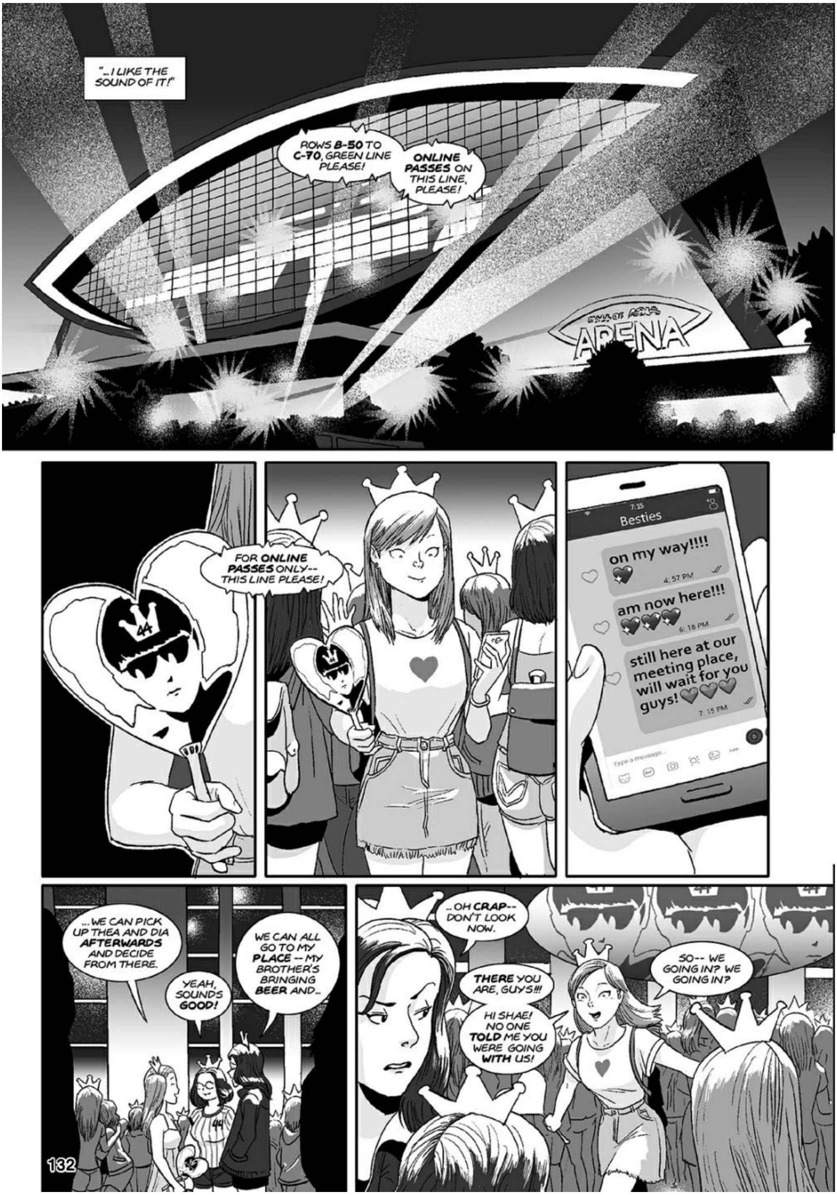

YOU -- YOU'VE BEEN CONTACTED!
'DO YOU KNOW A MAN CALLED KUBIN'?
K--KUBIN?
Fruit Cocktail
Tomato Sauce
UHM..
Y-YES.
I KNOW HIM.
Employees ONLY


BY THE GODS!
KAALO, QUICKLY--
WHERE IS KUBIN?
OH GOSH!
OH GOSH!
WE ARE BEING TOLD THE PRECISE LOCATION!
THERE!
WE'VE FOUND HIM!


KAALO, YOU BIG GOAT! YOU DID IT!
IF YOUR TWO HUNDRED UNCLES COULD SEE YOU NOW!
A TELEPATH IN THIS AGE? HOW STRANGE IS THAT?
I THOUGHT MOST OF THEM ONLY CAME FROM IBALON!
DATIMBANG MUST'VE BEEN OVERJOYED TO FIND ONE HERE!
THE OLD LADY IS BLESSED BY THE GODS!
THIS IS WONDERFUL NEWS!
WE CAN ACCOMPLISH THIS!
OUR MISSION IS AS GOOD AS...
KRAK! KBOOOM!
HMMM— A THUNDERCLAP.
AND JUST WHILE WE WERE CELEBRATING.
BAD OMEN.
LET'S BE SWIFT, MY FRIENDS. THERE IS NO TIME TO WASTE.


Y-YOU'RE WELCOME.
SPLAGGG!!!
HEY, THIS IS NO WAY TO **TREAT** YOUR LAST CUSTOMER.
SO, UM, WHEN ARE YOU GONNA **SERVE** MY ORDERS? I NEED TO **POST** A STORY.
"ARE YOU **DONE** WITH YOUR **DRAWING**, MARILAG?"

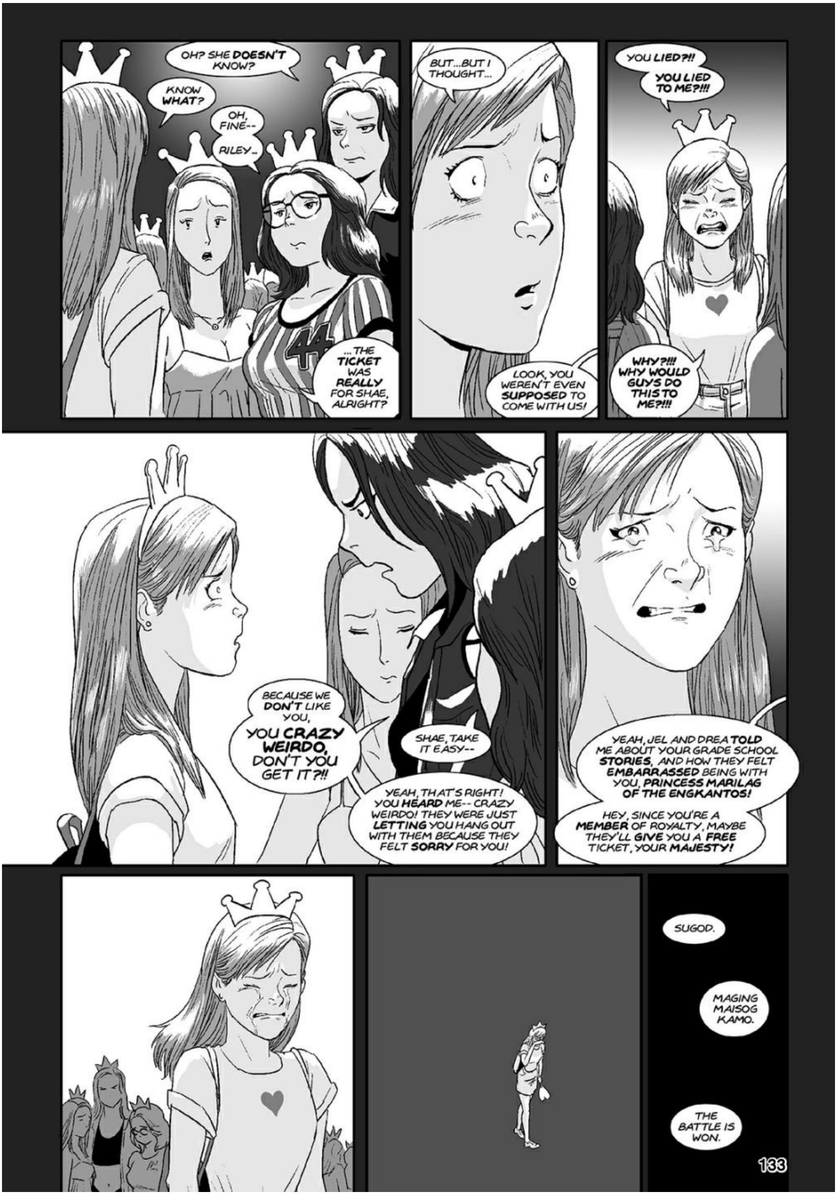

IT'S **DONE** MOM!
YOU **WANNA** SEE IT?
THAT IS **AWESOME!**
I REALLY **LIKE** THE ENGKANTO WITH THE HORSE'S HEAD, SO I **DREW** IT NEXT TO ME.
WILL I **EVER** GET TO **SEE** ONE?
FOR A **PRINCESS** LIKE YOU? WHO KNOWS.
PRINCESS MARILAG OF THE ENGKANTOS?
THAT'S YOUR **ROYAL TITLE,** THEN!
"PRINCESS MARILAG OF THE ENGKANTOS"!
YEAH ...

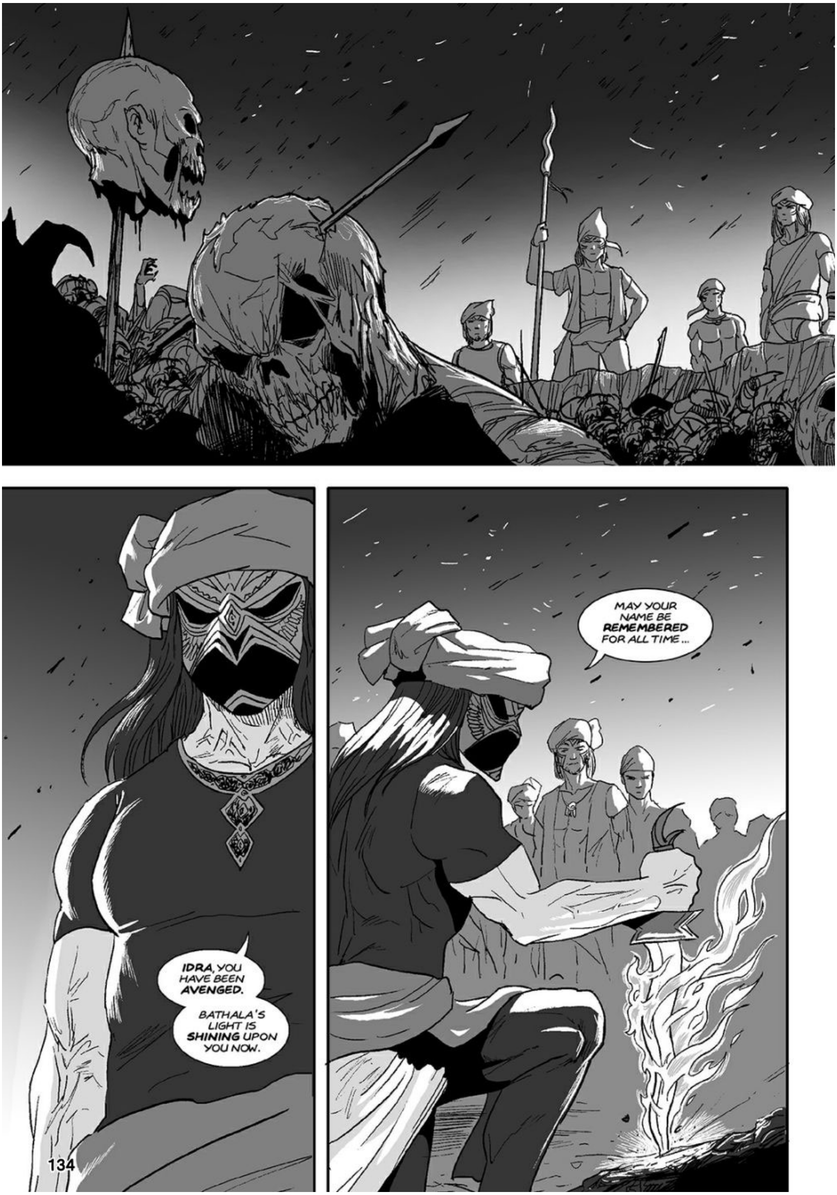

"...I LIKE THE SOUND OF IT!"
ROWS **B-50** TO **C-70**, GREEN LINE PLEASE!
**ONLINE PASSES** ON THIS LINE, PLEASE!
ARENA
FOR **ONLINE PASSES** ONLY-- THIS LINE PLEASE!
44
7:15
Besties
Type a message...
... WE CAN PICK UP THEA AND DIA **AFTERWARDS** AND DECIDE FROM THERE.
YEAH, SOUNDS **GOOD!**
WE CAN ALL GO TO MY **PLACE** -- MY BROTHER'S BRINGING **BEER** AND...
.. OH **CRAP**-- DON'T LOOK NOW.
**THERE** YOU ARE, GUYS!!!
HI SHAE! NO ONE **TOLD** ME YOU WERE GOING **WITH** US!
SO-- WE GOING IN? WE GOING IN?

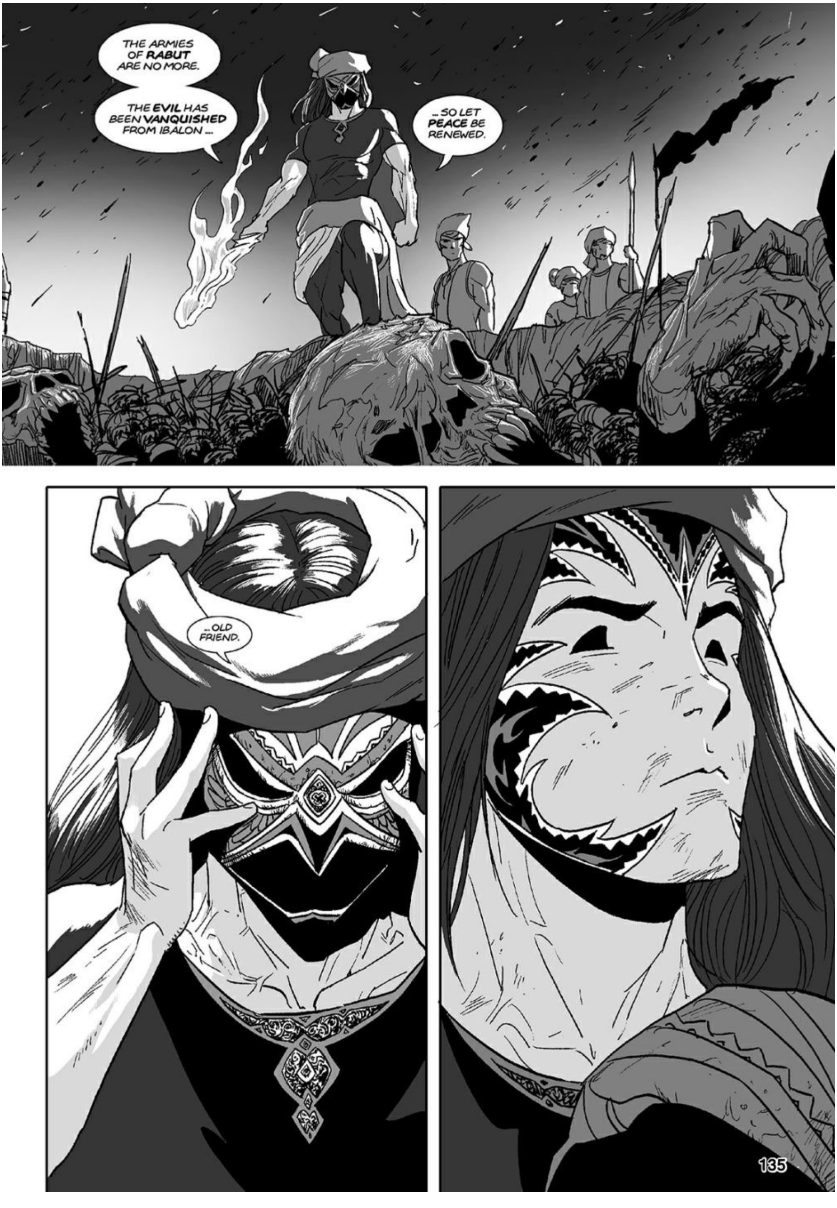
on my way!!!! ♥
4:57 PM

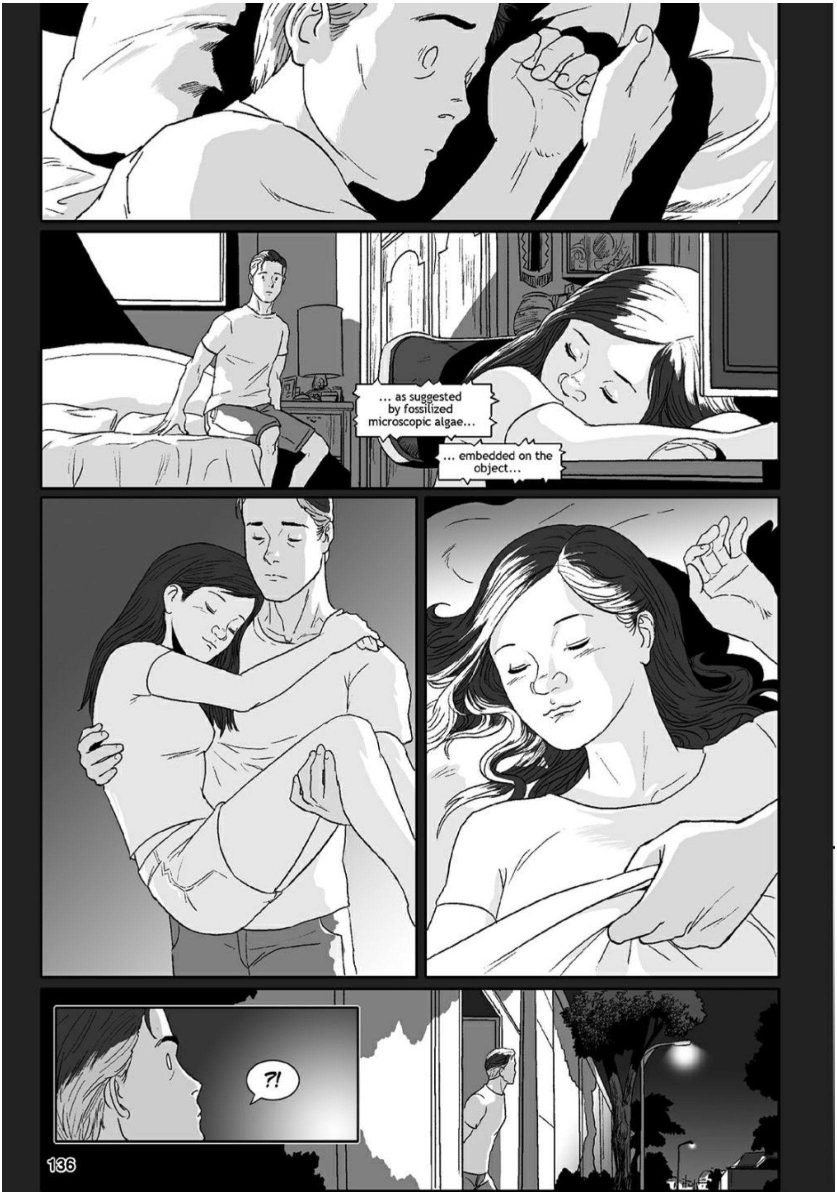
am now here!!! ♥♥♥
6:18 PM

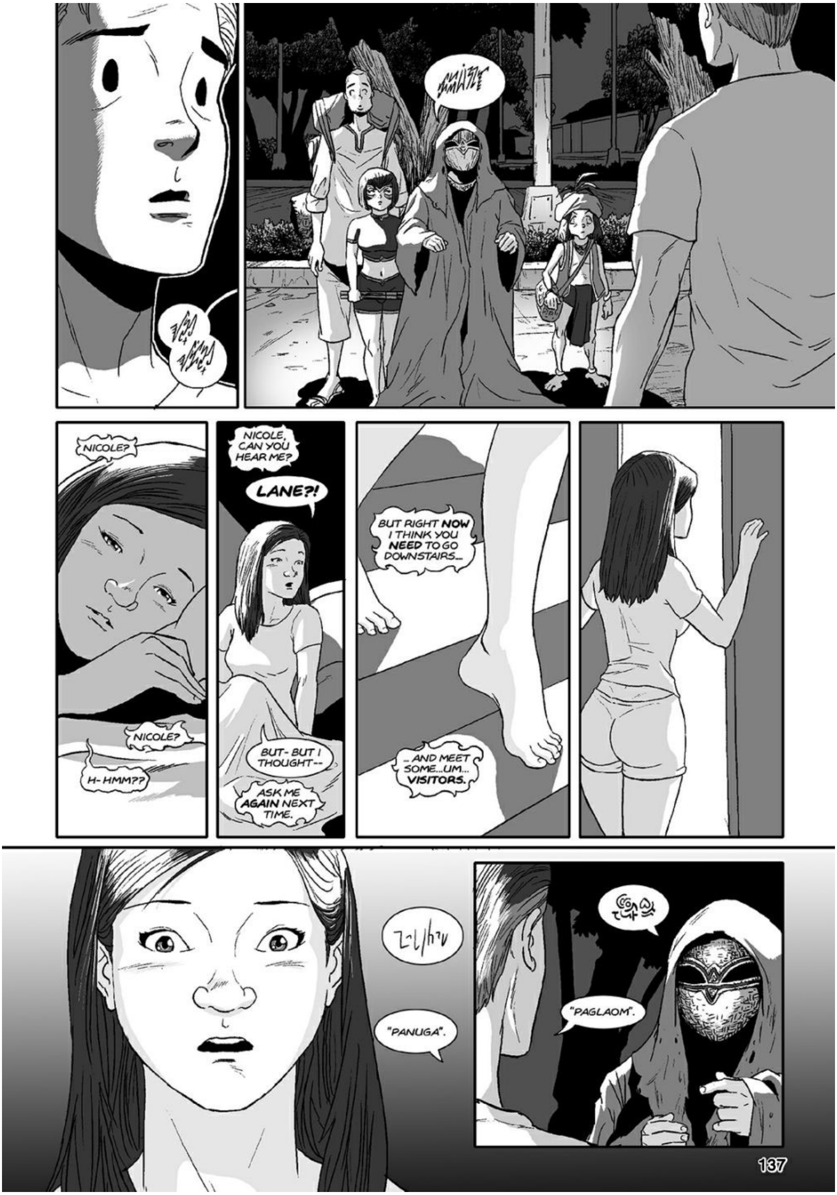
still here at our meeting place, will wait for you guys! ♥♥♥
7:15 PM

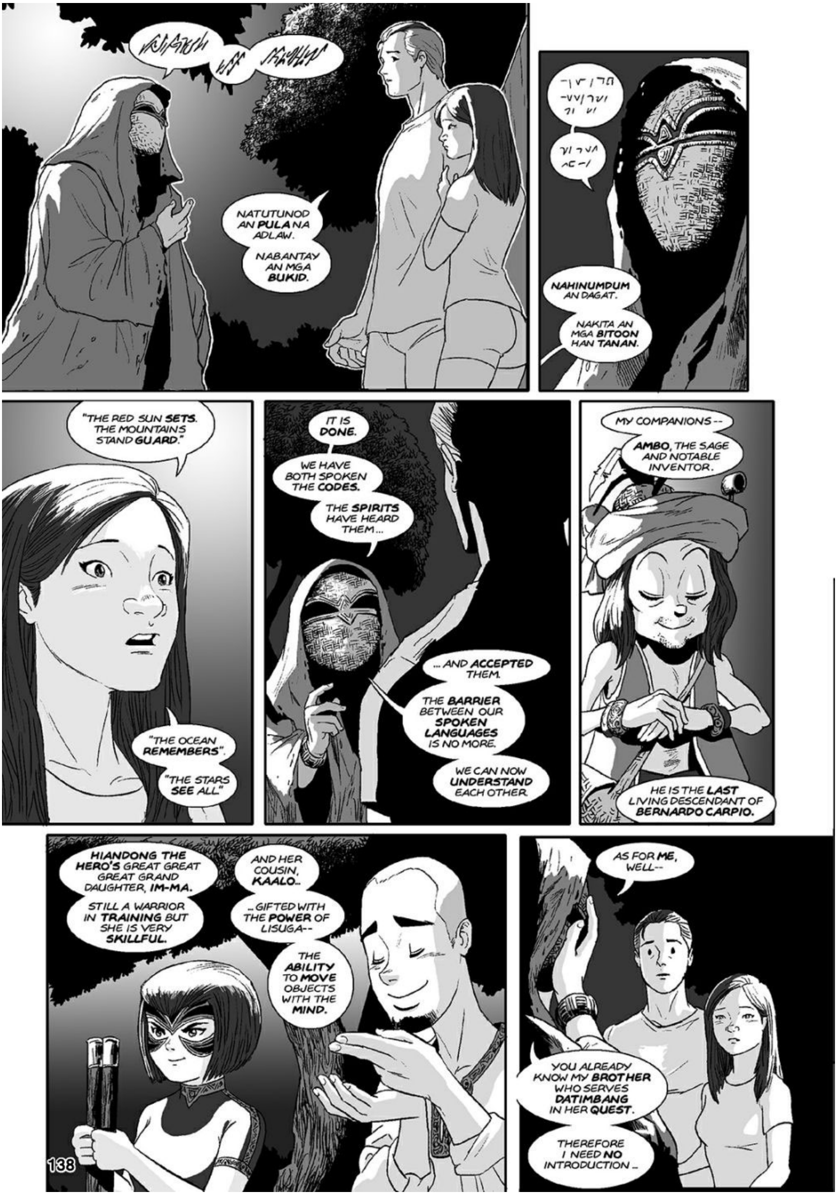

OH? SHE DOESN'T KNOW?
KNOW WHAT?
OH, FINE--
RILEY..
...THE TICKET WAS REALLY FOR SHAE, ALRIGHT?
BUT...BUT I THOUGHT...
LOOK, YOU WEREN'T EVEN SUPPOSED TO COME WITH US!
YOU LIED?!!
YOU LIED TO ME?!!!
WHY?!!! WHY WOULD GUYS DO THIS TO ME?!!!
BECAUSE WE DON'T LIKE YOU, YOU CRAZY WEIRDO, DON'T YOU GET IT?!!
SHAE, TAKE IT EASY--
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT! YOU HEARD ME-- CRAZY WEIRDO! THEY WERE JUST LETTING YOU HANG OUT WITH THEM BECAUSE THEY FELT SORRY FOR YOU!
YEAH, JEL AND DREA TOLD ME ABOUT YOUR GRADE SCHOOL STORIES, AND HOW THEY FELT EMBARRASSED BEING WITH YOU, PRINCESS MARILAG OF THE ENGKANTOS!
HEY, SINCE YOU'RE A MEMBER OF ROYALTY, MAYBE THEY'LL GIVE YOU A FREE TICKET, YOUR MAJESTY!
SUGOD.
MAGING MAISOG KAMO.
THE BATTLE IS WON.

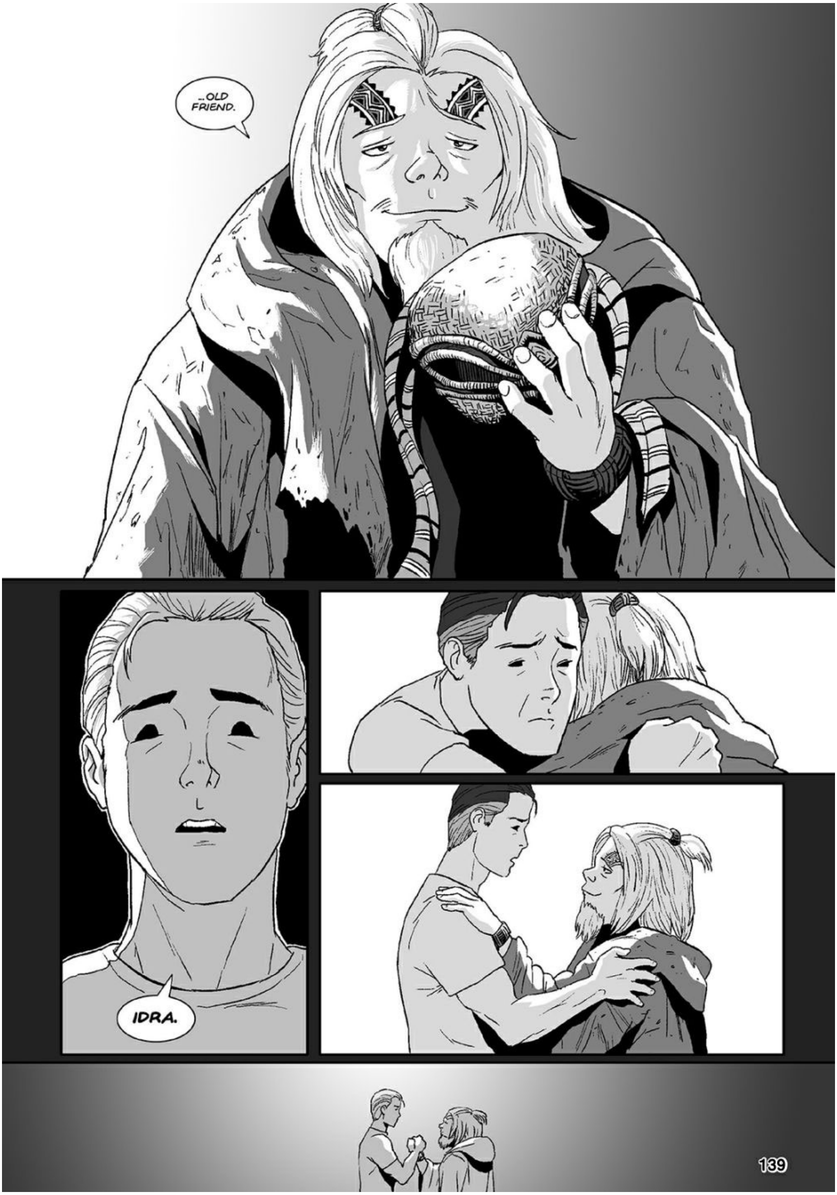

IDRA, YOU HAVE BEEN AVENGED.
BATHALA'S LIGHT IS SHINING UPON YOU NOW.
MAY YOUR NAME BE REMEMBERED FOR ALL TIME...

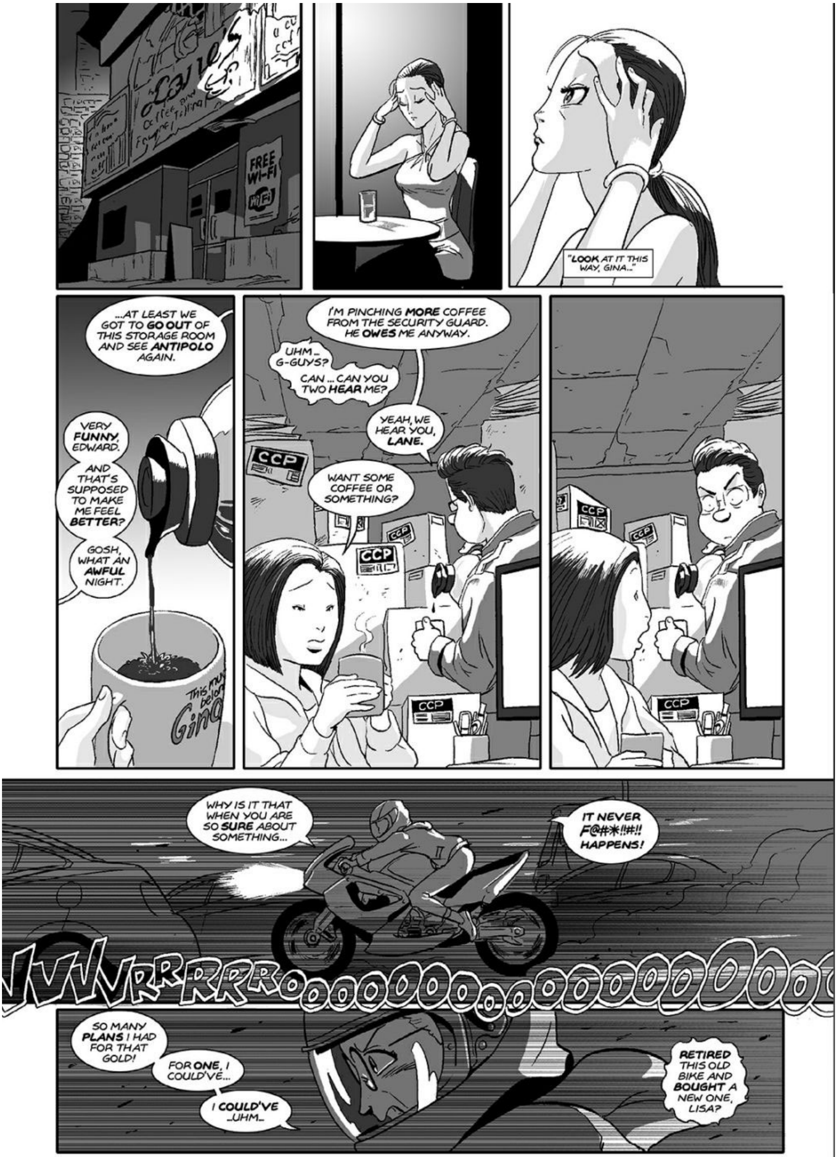

THE ARMIES OF **RABUT** ARE NO MORE.
THE **EVIL** HAS BEEN **VANQUISHED** FROM IBALON ...
... SO LET **PEACE** BE RENEWED.
... OLD FRIEND.

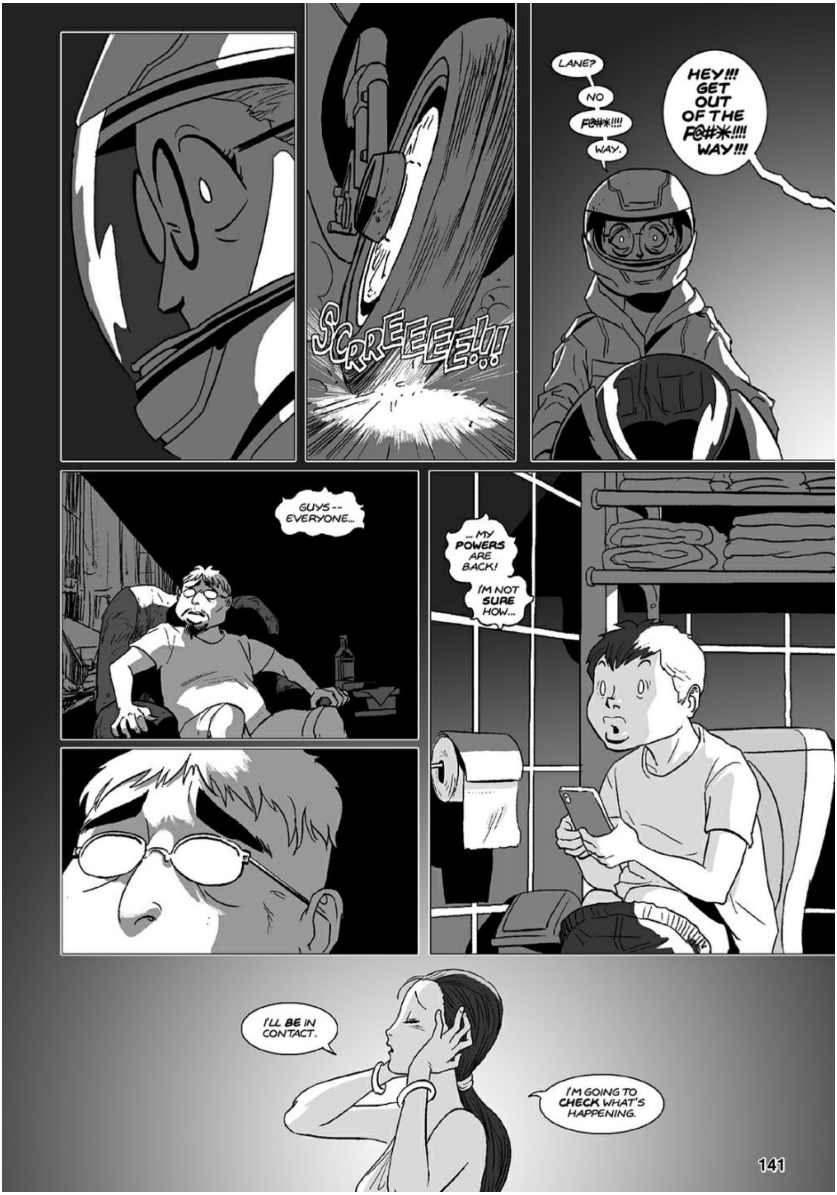

... as suggested by fossilized microscopic algae...
... embedded on the object...
?!

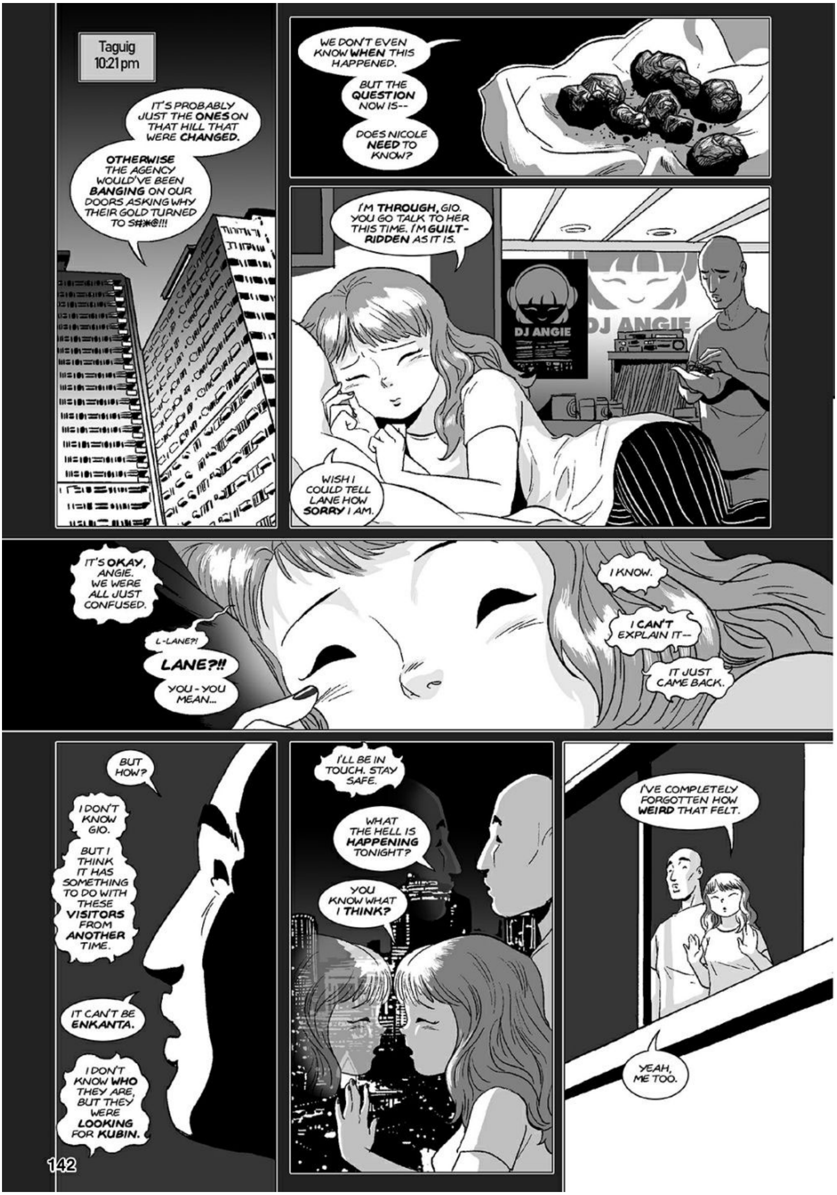

NICOLE?
NICOLE?
H- HMM??
NICOLE, CAN YOU HEAR ME?
LANE?!
BUT- BUT I THOUGHT--
ASK ME AGAIN NEXT TIME.
BUT RIGHT NOW I THINK YOU NEED TO GO DOWNSTAIRS...
...AND MEET SOME...UM... VISITORS.
"PANUGA".
"PAGLAOM".

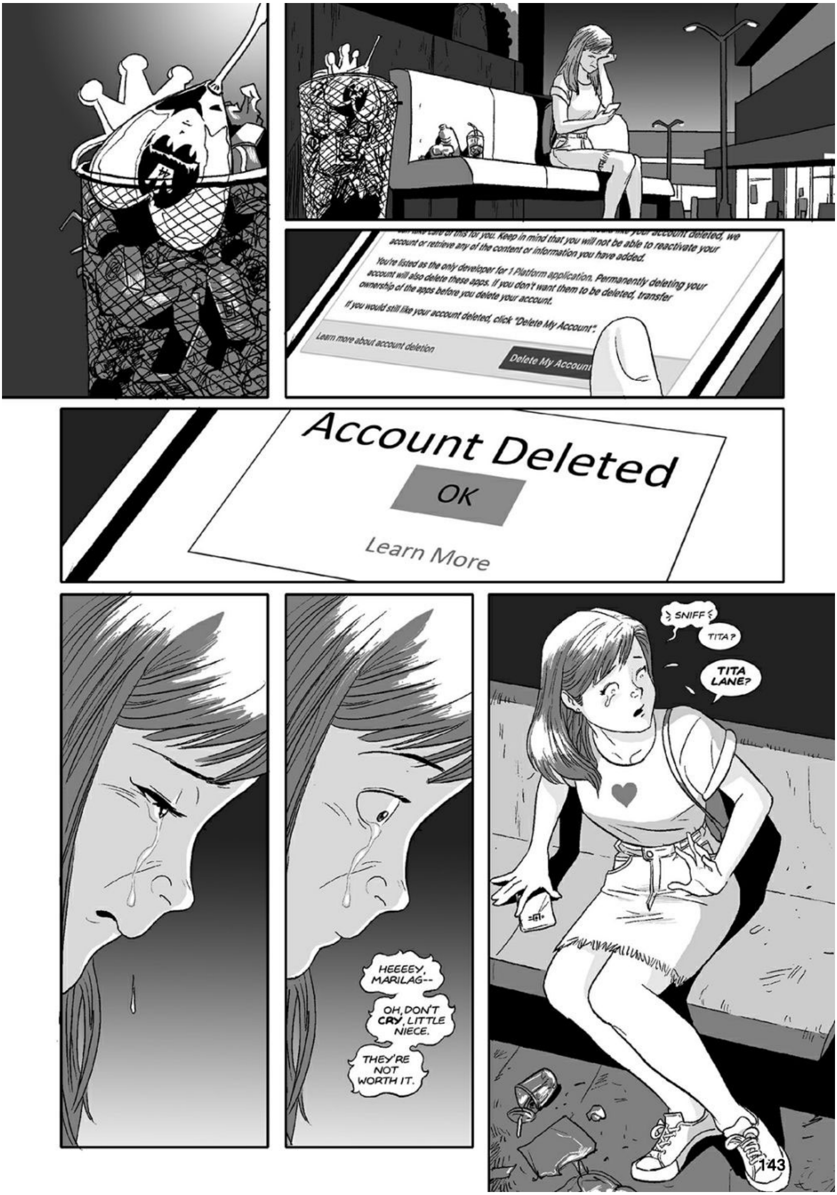

NATUTUNOD AN **PULA** NA ADLAW.
NABANTAY AN MGA **BUKID**.
**NAHINUMDUM** AN DAGAT.
NAKITA AN MGA **BITOON** HAN **TANAN**.
"THE RED SUN **SETS**. THE MOUNTAINS STAND **GUARD**."
"THE OCEAN **REMEMBERS**".
"THE STARS **SEE** ALL"
IT IS **DONE**.
WE HAVE BOTH SPOKEN THE **CODES**.
THE **SPIRITS** HAVE HEARD THEM...
... AND **ACCEPTED** THEM.
THE **BARRIER** BETWEEN OUR **SPOKEN LANGUAGES** IS NO MORE.
WE CAN NOW **UNDERSTAND** EACH OTHER.
MY COMPANIONS --
**AMBO**, THE SAGE AND NOTABLE INVENTOR.
HE IS THE **LAST** LIVING DESCENDANT OF **BERNARDO CARPIO**.
**HIANDONG THE HERO'S** GREAT GREAT GREAT GRAND DAUGHTER, **IM-MA**.
STILL A WARRIOR IN **TRAINING** BUT SHE IS VERY **SKILLFUL**.
AND HER COUSIN, **KAALO**...
... GIFTED WITH THE **POWER** OF LISUGA--
THE **ABILITY** TO **MOVE** OBJECTS WITH THE **MIND**.
AS FOR **ME**, WELL--
YOU ALREADY KNOW MY **BROTHER** WHO SERVES **DATIMBANG** IN HER **QUEST**.
THEREFORE I NEED **NO** INTRODUCTION...

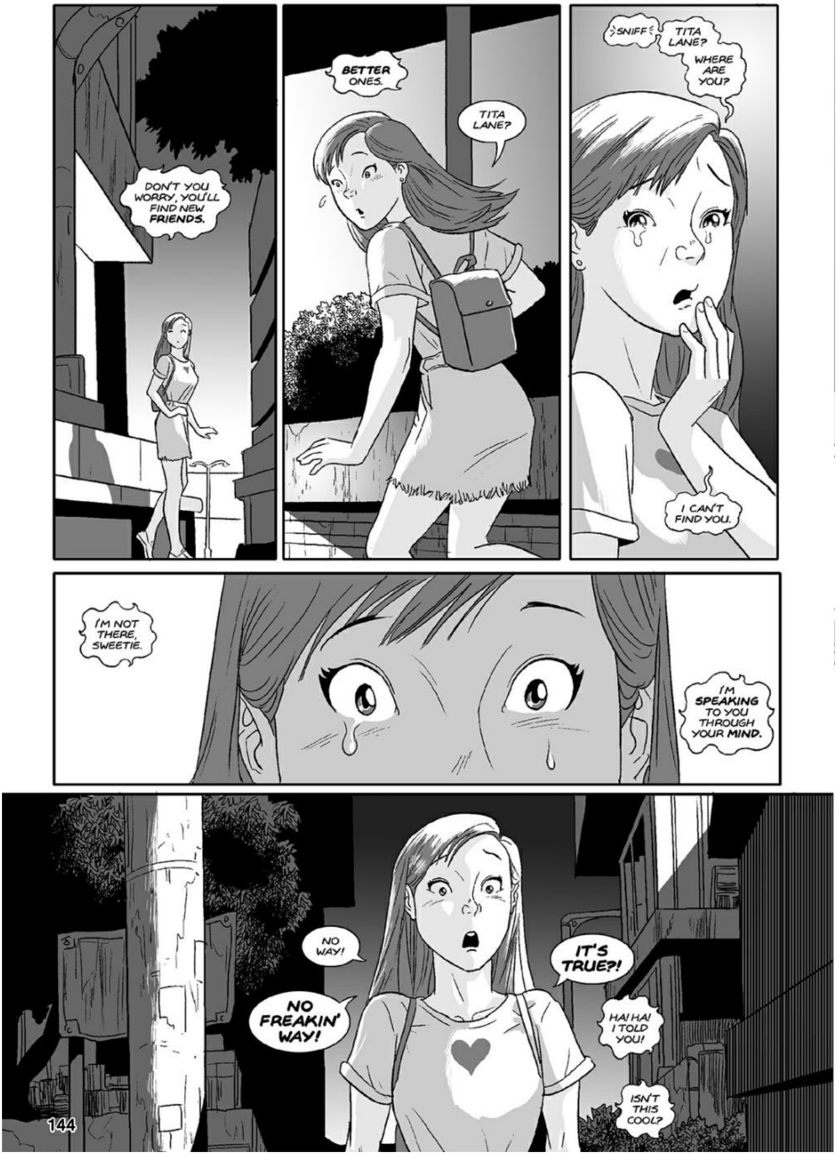

...OLD FRIEND.
IDRA.

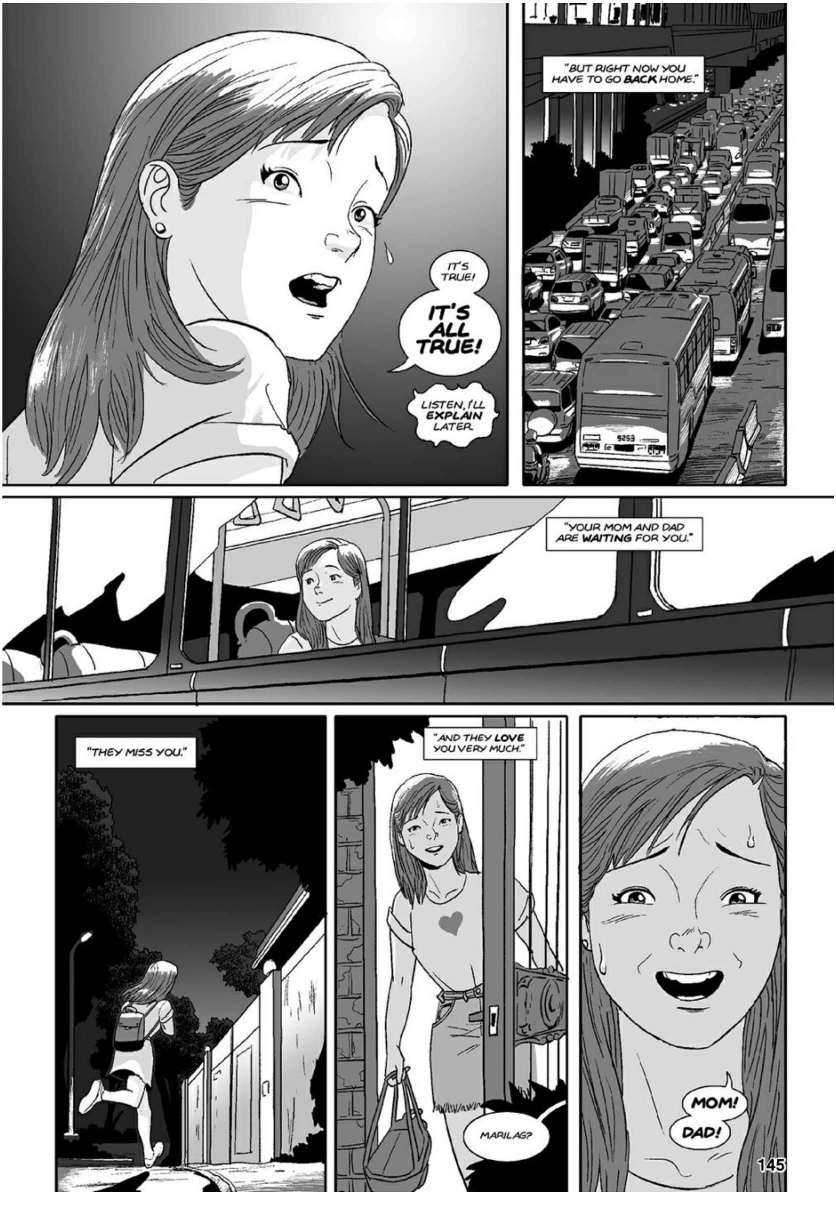

FREE WI-FI
"LOOK AT IT THIS WAY, GINA..."
...AT LEAST WE GOT TO GO OUT OF THIS STORAGE ROOM AND SEE ANTIPOLO AGAIN.
VERY FUNNY, EDWARD.
AND THAT'S SUPPOSED TO MAKE ME FEEL BETTER?
GOSH, WHAT AN AWFUL NIGHT.
I'M PINCHING MORE COFFEE FROM THE SECURITY GUARD. HE OWES ME ANYWAY.
UHM... G-GUYS?
CAN ... CAN YOU TWO HEAR ME?
YEAH, WE HEAR YOU, LANE.
WANT SOME COFFEE OR SOMETHING?
CCP
WHY IS IT THAT WHEN YOU ARE SO SURE ABOUT SOMETHING...
IT NEVER F@#*!!#!! HAPPENS!
VVVVRRRRRROOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO
SO MANY PLANS I HAD FOR THAT GOLD!
FOR ONE, I COULD'VE...
I COULD'VE ...UHM...
RETIRED THIS OLD BIKE AND BOUGHT A NEW ONE, LISA?

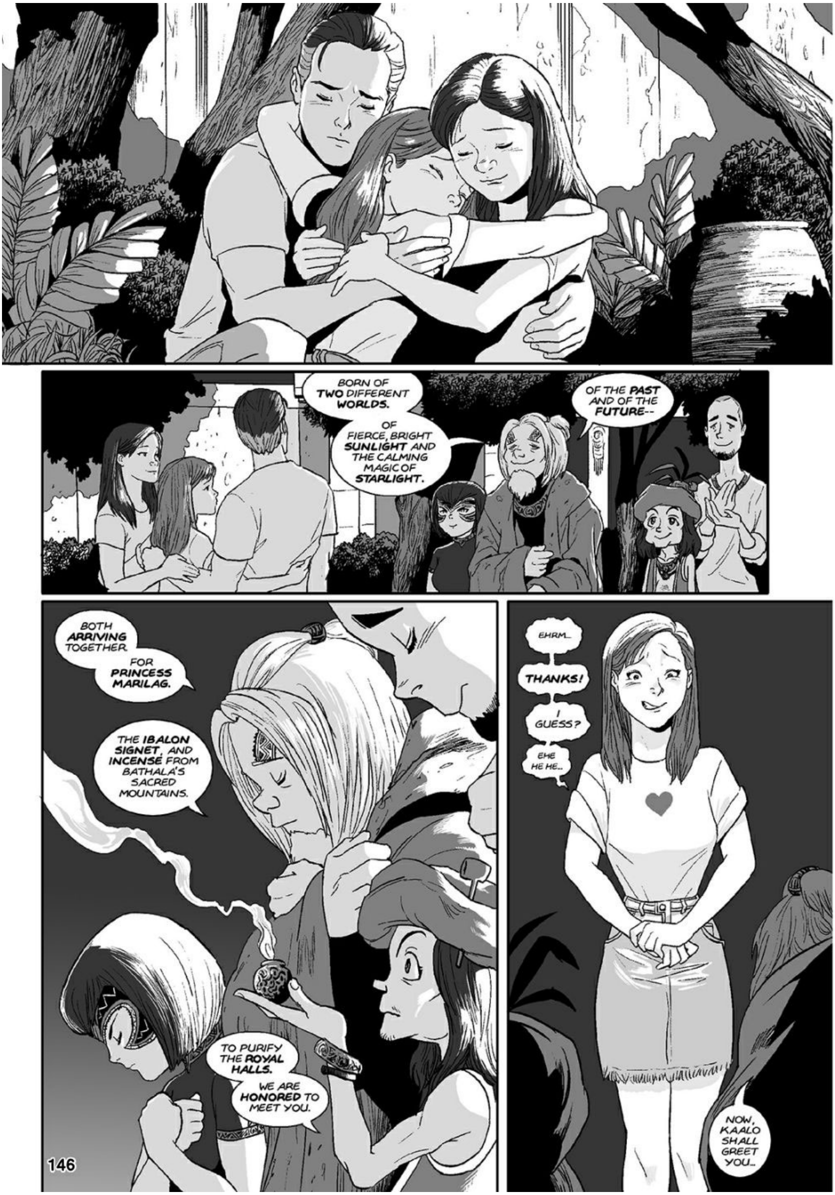

SCRREEEEEE..!!
LANE?
NO
F@#*!!!!
WAY.
HEY!!! GET OUT OF THE F@#*!!!! WAY!!!
GUYS -- EVERYONE...
... MY POWERS ARE BACK!
I'M NOT SURE HOW...
I'LL BE IN CONTACT.
I'M GOING TO CHECK WHAT'S HAPPENING.

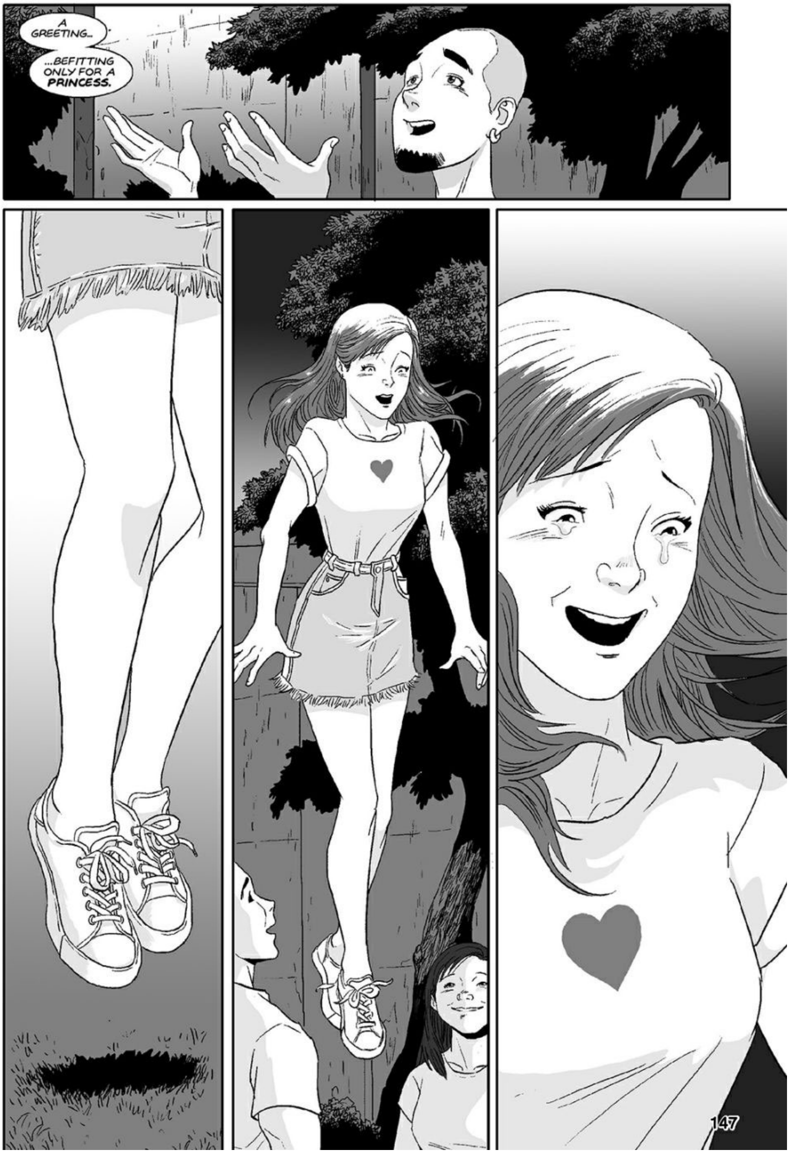

Taguig 10:21pm
IT'S PROBABLY JUST THE ONES ON THAT HILL THAT WERE CHANGED.
OTHERWISE THE AGENCY WOULD'VE BEEN BANGING ON OUR DOORS ASKING WHY THEIR GOLD TURNED TO S#✳@!!!
WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHEN THIS HAPPENED.
BUT THE QUESTION NOW IS--
DOES NICOLE NEED TO KNOW?
I'M THROUGH, GIO. YOU GO TALK TO HER THIS TIME. I'M GUILT-RIDDEN AS IT IS.
DJ ANGIE
DJ ANGIE
WISH I COULD TELL LANE HOW SORRY I AM.
IT'S OKAY, ANGIE. WE WERE ALL JUST CONFUSED.
L-LANE?!
LANE?!!
YOU - YOU MEAN...
I KNOW.
I CAN'T EXPLAIN IT--
IT JUST CAME BACK.
BUT HOW?
I DON'T KNOW GIO.
BUT I THINK IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH THESE VISITORS FROM ANOTHER TIME.
IT CAN'T BE ENKANTA.
I DON'T KNOW WHO THEY ARE, BUT THEY WERE LOOKING FOR KUBIN.
I'LL BE IN TOUCH. STAY SAFE.
WHAT THE HELL IS HAPPENING TONIGHT?
YOU KNOW WHAT I THINK?
I'VE COMPLETELY FORGOTTEN HOW WEIRD THAT FELT.
YEAH, ME TOO.

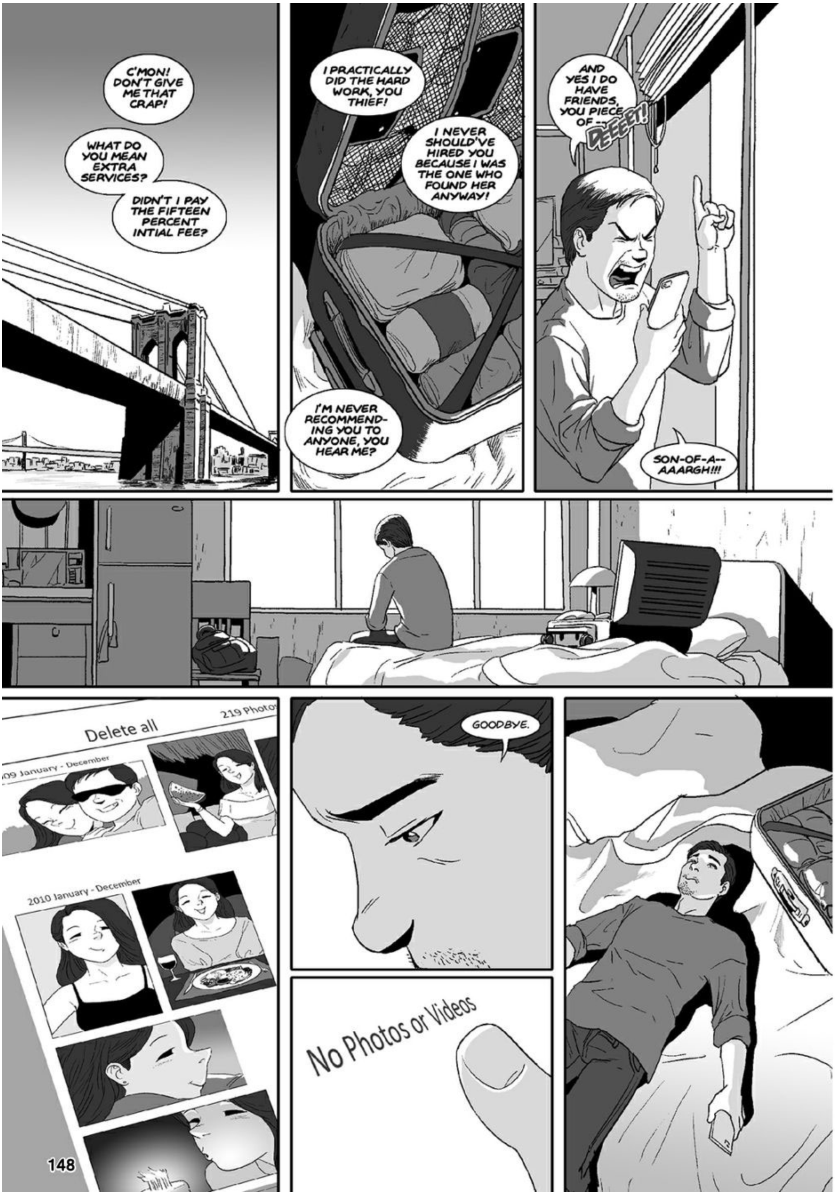

your account deleted, we
this for you. Keep in mind that you will not be able to reactivate your
account or retrieve any of the content or information you have added.
You're listed as the only developer for 1 Platform application. Permanently deleting your account will also delete these apps. If you don't want them to be deleted, transfer ownership of the apps before you delete your account.
If you would still like your account deleted, click "Delete My Account".
Learn more about account deletion
Delete My Account
Account Deleted
OK
Learn More
HEEEEY, MARILAG--
OH, DON'T CRY, LITTLE NIECE.
THEY'RE NOT WORTH IT.
SNIFF
TITA?
TITA LANE?

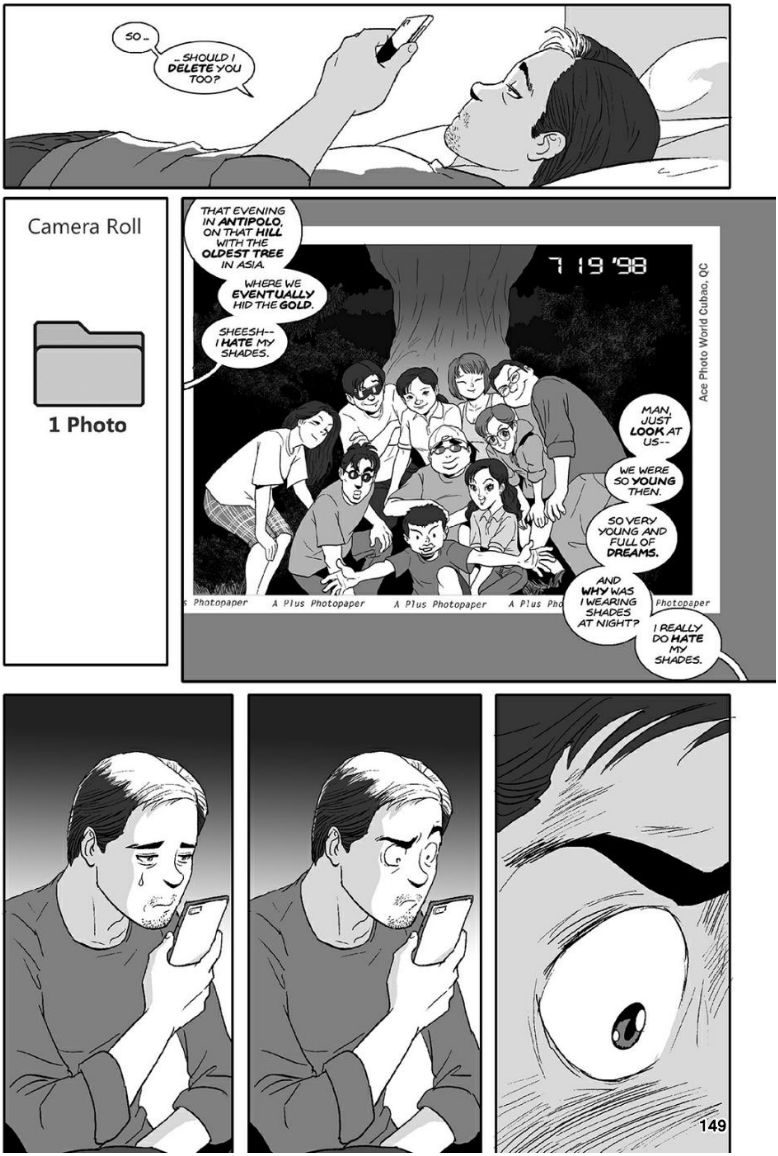

DON'T YOU WORRY, YOU'LL FIND NEW **FRIENDS.**
**BETTER** ONES.
TITA LANE?
SNIFF
TITA LANE?
WHERE ARE YOU?
I CAN'T FIND YOU.
I'M NOT THERE, SWEETIE.
I'M **SPEAKING** TO YOU THROUGH YOUR **MIND.**
NO WAY!
**NO FREAKIN' WAY!**
**IT'S TRUE?!**
HA! HA! I TOLD YOU!
ISN'T THIS COOL?

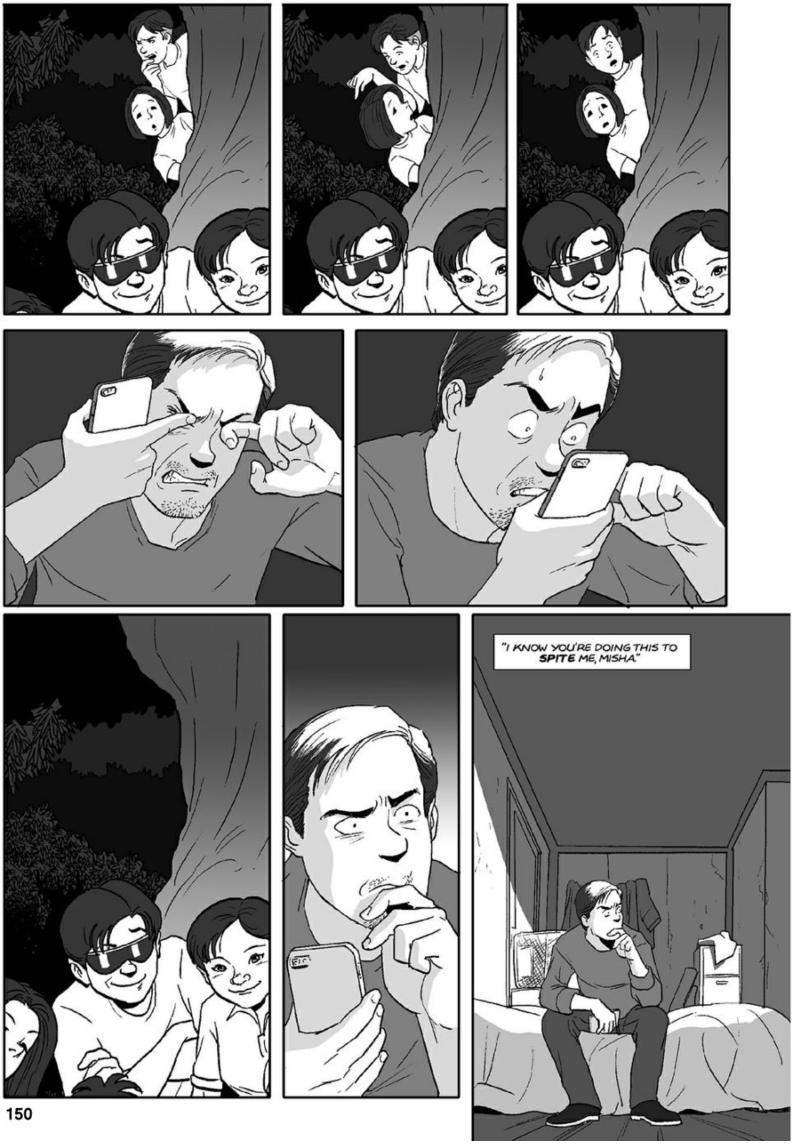

IT'S TRUE!
IT'S ALL TRUE!
LISTEN, I'LL EXPLAIN LATER.
"BUT RIGHT NOW YOU HAVE TO GO BACK HOME."
9253
"YOUR MOM AND DAD ARE WAITING FOR YOU."
"THEY MISS YOU."
"AND THEY LOVE YOU VERY MUCH."
MARILAG?
MOM!
DAD!

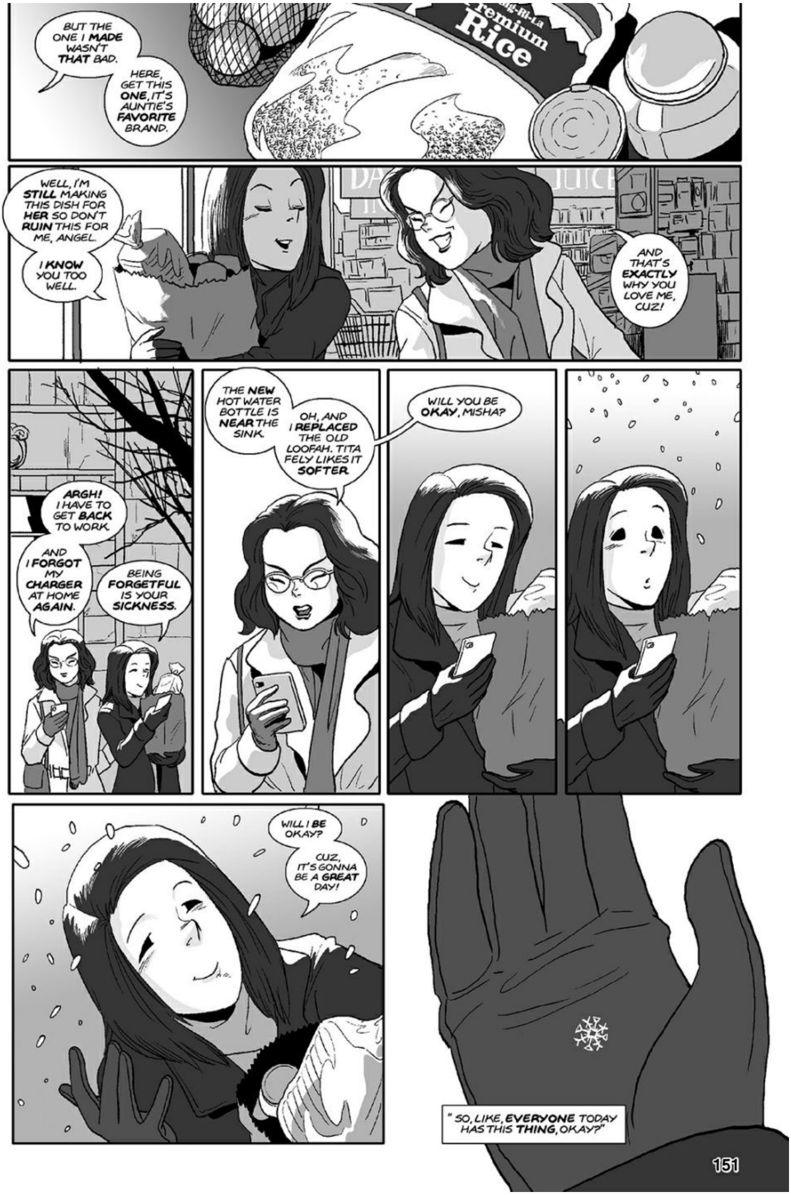

BORN OF TWO DIFFERENT WORLDS.
OF FIERCE, BRIGHT SUNLIGHT AND THE CALMING MAGIC OF STARLIGHT.
OF THE PAST AND OF THE FUTURE--
BOTH ARRIVING TOGETHER FOR PRINCESS MARILAG.
THE IBALON SIGNET, AND INCENSE FROM BATHALA'S SACRED MOUNTAINS.
TO PURIFY THE ROYAL HALLS.
WE ARE HONORED TO MEET YOU.
EHRM..
THANKS!
I GUESS?
EHE HE HE..
NOW, KAALO SHALL GREET YOU..

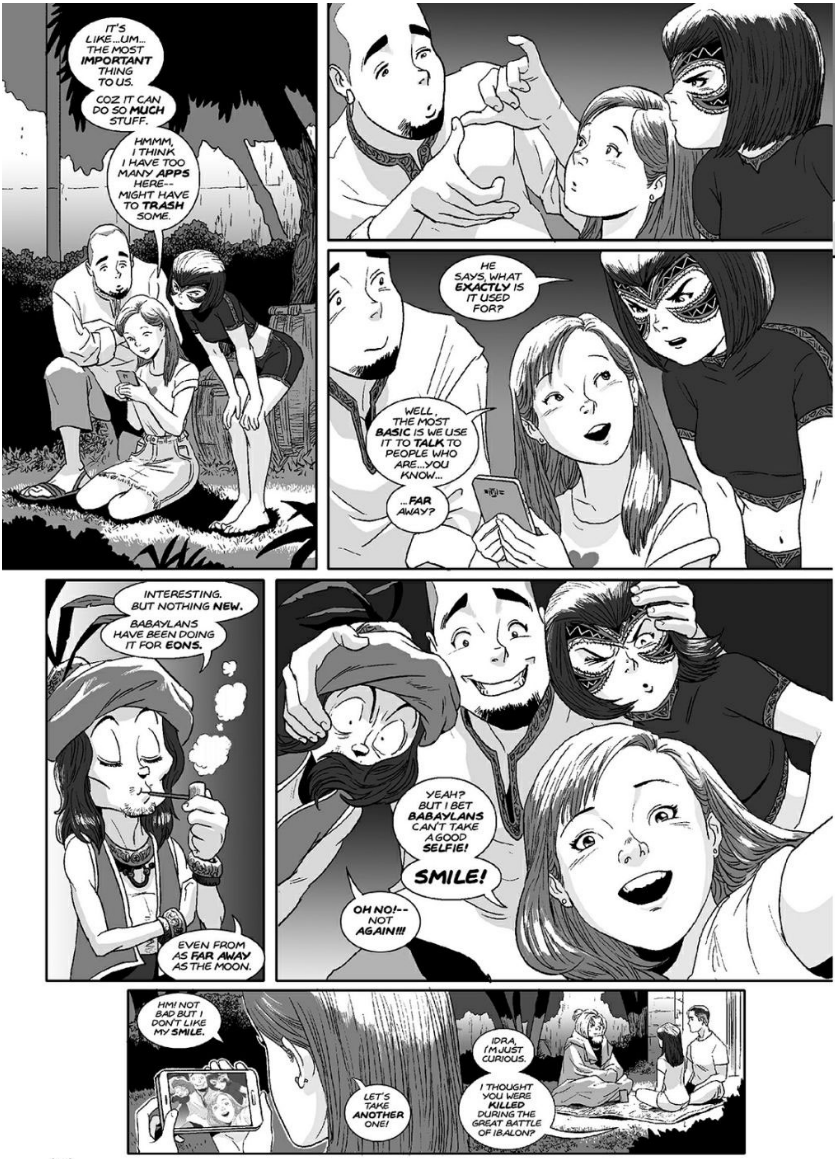

A GREETING...
...BEFITTING ONLY FOR A **PRINCESS.**

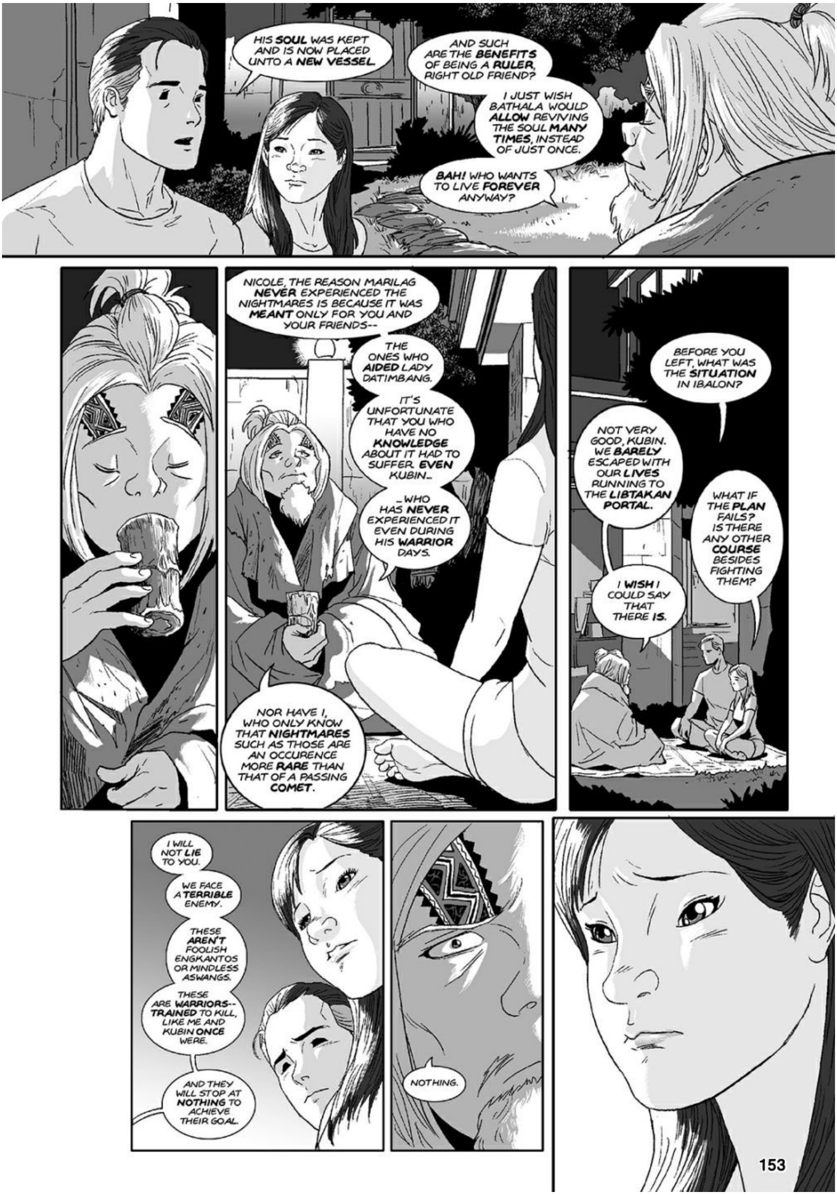

C'MON! DON'T GIVE ME THAT CRAP!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN EXTRA SERVICES?
DIDN'T I PAY THE FIFTEEN PERCENT INTIAL FEE?
I PRACTICALLY DID THE HARD WORK, YOU THIEF!
I NEVER SHOULD'VE HIRED YOU BECAUSE I WAS THE ONE WHO FOUND HER ANYWAY!
I'M NEVER RECOMMENDING YOU TO ANYONE, YOU HEAR ME?
AND YES I DO HAVE FRIENDS, YOU PIECE OF --
DEEEET!
SON-OF-A-- AAARGH!!!
Delete all
219 Photos
09 January - December
2010 January - December
GOODBYE.
No Photos or Videos

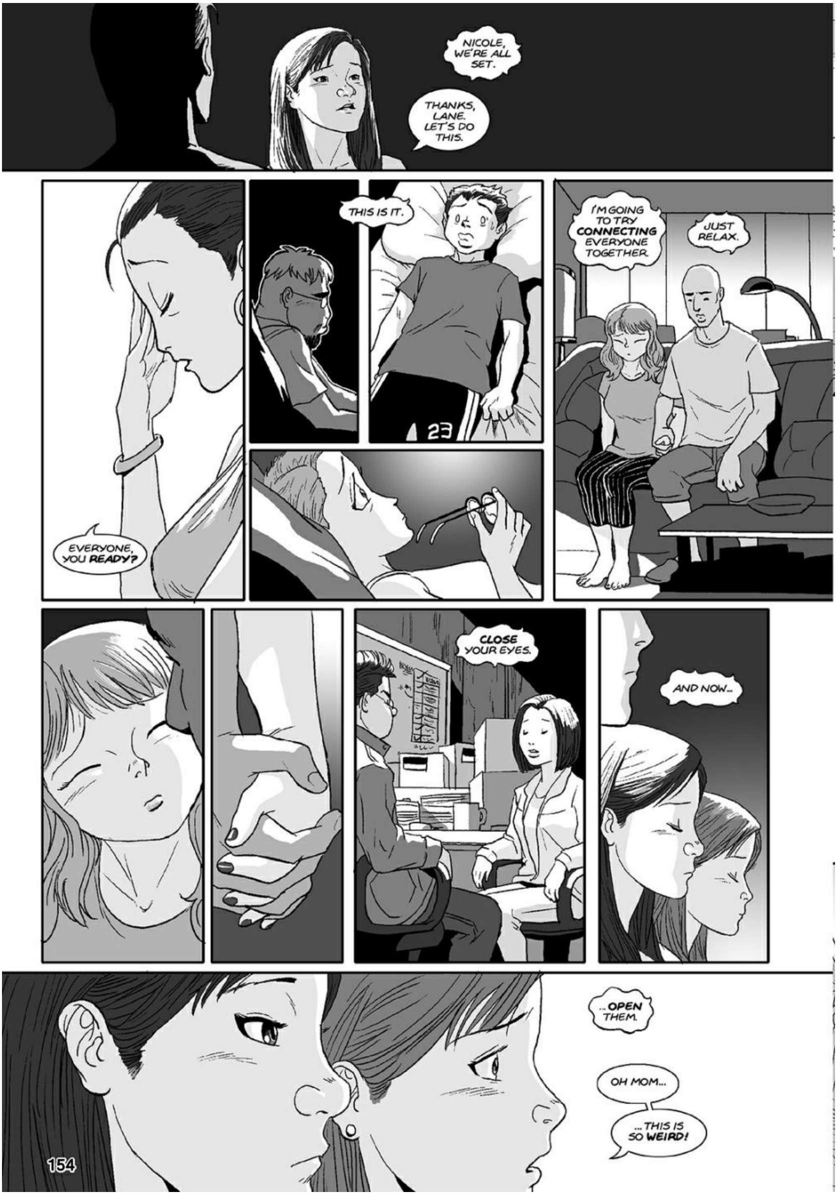

SO…
…SHOULD I DELETE YOU TOO?
Camera Roll
1 Photo
THAT EVENING IN ANTIPOLO, ON THAT HILL WITH THE OLDEST TREE IN ASIA.
WHERE WE EVENTUALLY HID THE GOLD.
SHEESH-- I HATE MY SHADES.
7 19 '98
Ace Photo World Cubao, QC
A Plus Photopaper
MAN, JUST LOOK AT US--
WE WERE SO YOUNG THEN.
SO VERY YOUNG AND FULL OF DREAMS.
AND WHY WAS I WEARING SHADES AT NIGHT?
I REALLY DO HATE MY SHADES.

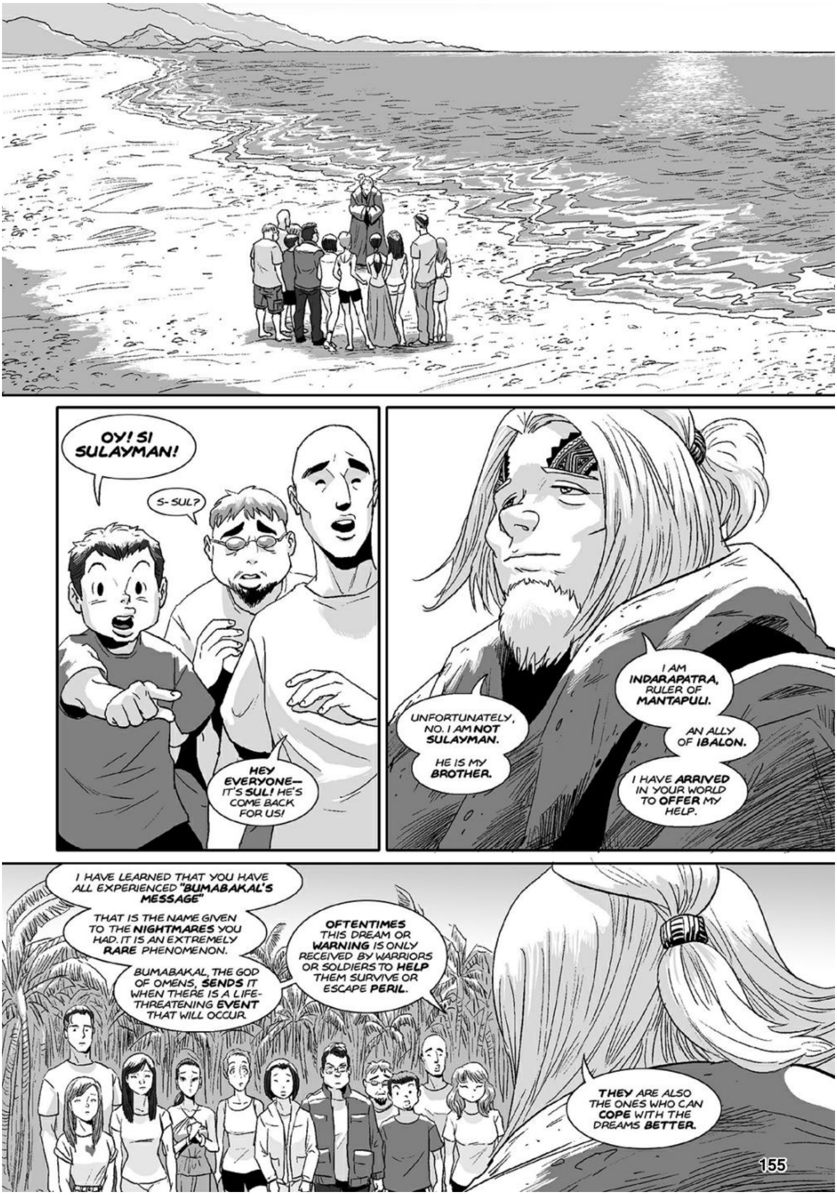

"I KNOW YOU'RE DOING THIS TO **SPITE** ME, MISHA."

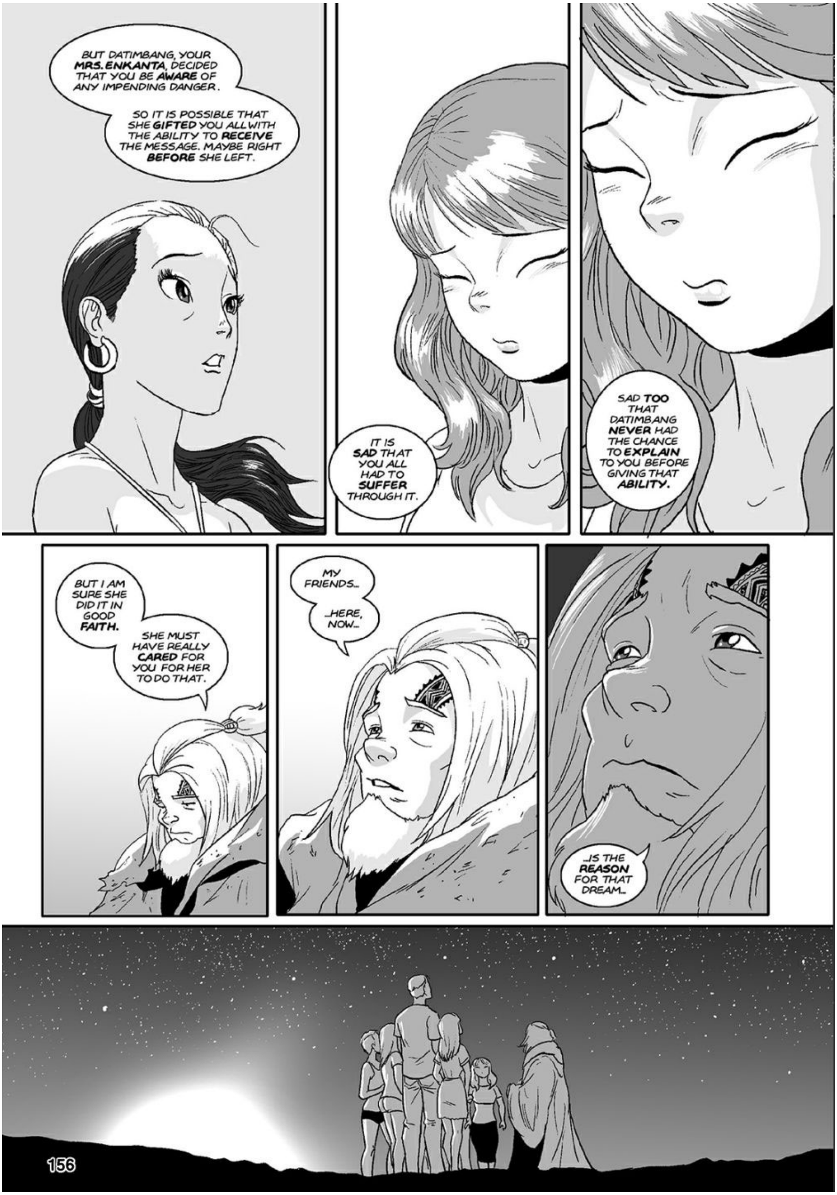

BUT THE ONE I **MADE** WASN'T **THAT** BAD.
HERE, GET THIS **ONE**, IT'S AUNTIE'S **FAVORITE** BRAND.
Premium Rice
WELL, I'M **STILL** MAKING THIS DISH FOR **HER** SO DON'T **RUIN** THIS FOR ME, ANGEL.
**I KNOW** YOU TOO WELL.
AND THAT'S **EXACTLY** WHY YOU LOVE ME, CUZ!
JUICE
**ARGH!** I HAVE TO GET **BACK** TO WORK.
AND I **FORGOT** MY **CHARGER** AT HOME **AGAIN**.
BEING **FORGETFUL** IS YOUR **SICKNESS**.
THE **NEW** HOT WATER BOTTLE IS **NEAR** THE SINK.
OH, AND I **REPLACED** THE OLD LOOFAH. TITA FELY LIKES IT **SOFTER**.
WILL YOU BE **OKAY**, MISHA?
WILL I **BE** OKAY?
CUZ, IT'S GONNA BE A **GREAT** DAY!
" SO, LIKE, **EVERYONE** TODAY HAS THIS **THING**, OKAY?"

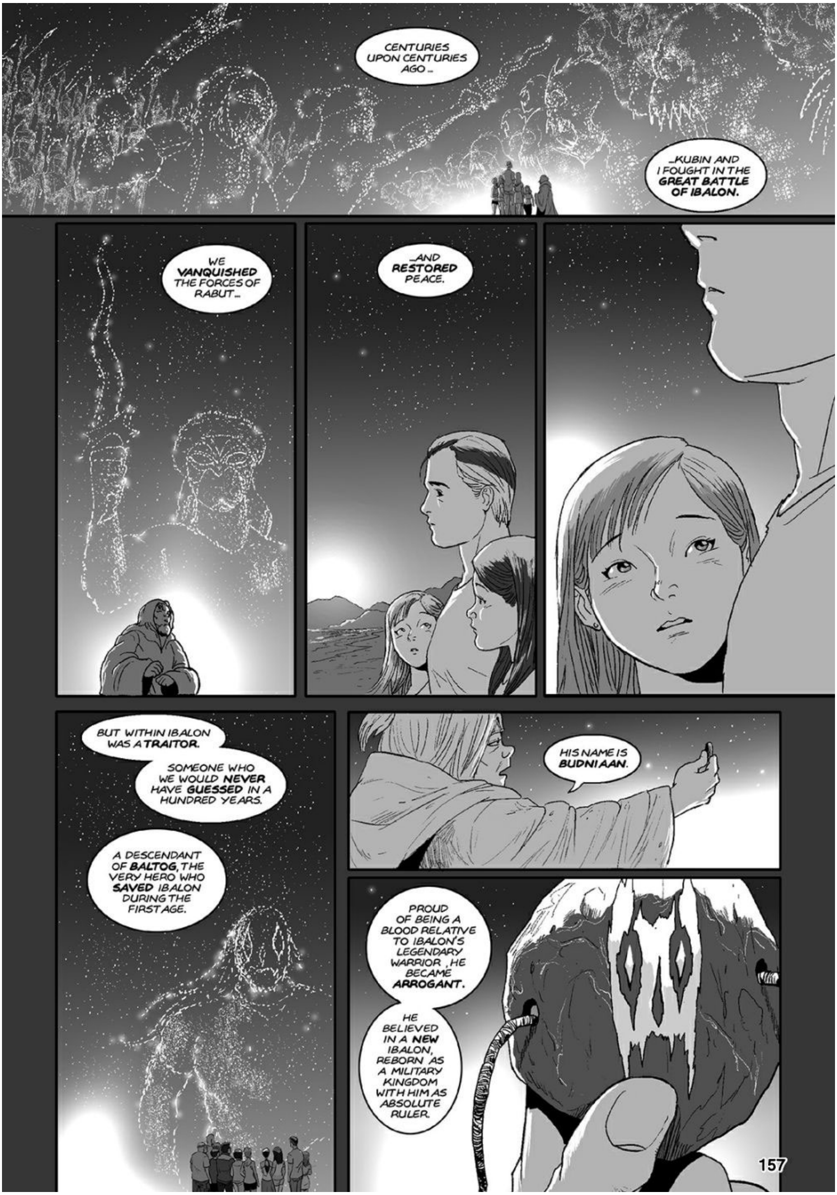

IT'S LIKE...UM... THE MOST **IMPORTANT** THING TO US.
COZ IT CAN DO SO **MUCH** STUFF.
HMMM, I THINK I HAVE TOO MANY **APPS** HERE-- MIGHT HAVE TO **TRASH** SOME.
HE SAYS, WHAT **EXACTLY** IS IT USED FOR?
WELL, THE MOST **BASIC** IS WE USE IT TO **TALK** TO PEOPLE WHO ARE...YOU KNOW...
...**FAR** AWAY?
INTERESTING. BUT NOTHING **NEW.**
BABAYLANS HAVE BEEN DOING IT FOR **EONS.**
EVEN FROM AS **FAR AWAY** AS THE MOON.
YEAH? BUT I BET **BABAYLANS** CAN'T TAKE A GOOD **SELFIE!**
**SMILE!**
**OH NO!-- NOT AGAIN!!!**
HM! NOT BAD BUT I DON'T LIKE MY **SMILE.**
LET'S TAKE **ANOTHER** ONE!
IDRA, I'M JUST CURIOUS.
I THOUGHT YOU WERE **KILLED** DURING THE GREAT BATTLE OF IBALON?

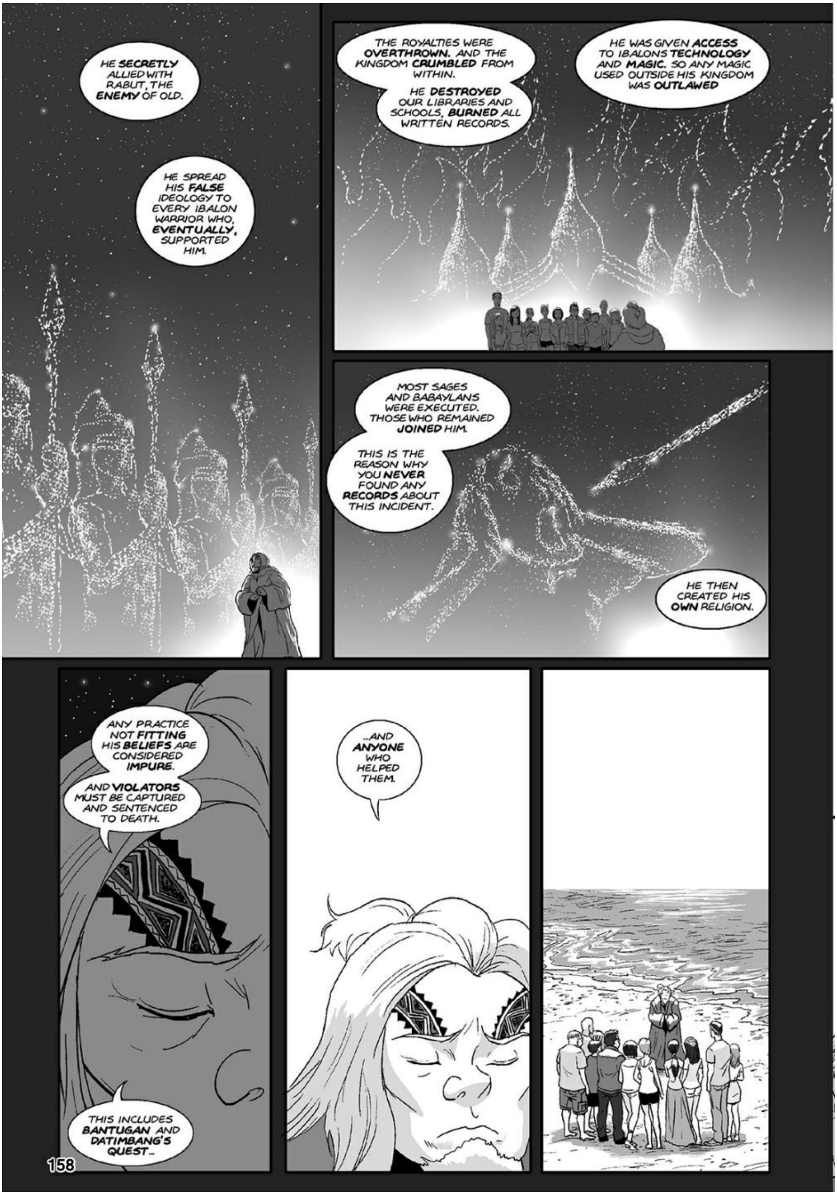

HIS **SOUL** WAS KEPT AND IS NOW PLACED UNTO A **NEW VESSEL**.
AND SUCH ARE THE **BENEFITS** OF BEING A **RULER**, RIGHT OLD FRIEND?
I JUST WISH BATHALA WOULD **ALLOW** REVIVING THE SOUL **MANY TIMES**, INSTEAD OF JUST ONCE.
**BAH!** WHO WANTS TO LIVE **FOREVER** ANYWAY?
NICOLE, THE REASON MARILAG **NEVER** EXPERIENCED THE NIGHTMARES IS BECAUSE IT WAS **MEANT** ONLY FOR YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS--
THE ONES WHO **AIDED** LADY DATIMBANG.
IT'S UNFORTUNATE THAT YOU WHO HAVE NO **KNOWLEDGE** ABOUT IT HAD TO SUFFER. **EVEN** KUBIN...
...WHO HAS **NEVER** EXPERIENCED IT EVEN DURING HIS **WARRIOR** DAYS.
NOR HAVE I, WHO ONLY KNOW THAT **NIGHTMARES** SUCH AS THOSE ARE AN OCCURENCE MORE **RARE** THAN THAT OF A PASSING **COMET**.
BEFORE YOU LEFT, WHAT WAS THE **SITUATION** IN IBALON?
NOT VERY GOOD, KUBIN. WE **BARELY** ESCAPED WITH OUR **LIVES** RUNNING TO THE **LIBTAKAN PORTAL**.
WHAT IF THE **PLAN** FAILS? IS THERE ANY OTHER **COURSE** BESIDES FIGHTING THEM?
I **WISH** I COULD SAY THAT THERE **IS**.
I WILL NOT **LIE** TO YOU.
WE FACE A **TERRIBLE** ENEMY.
THESE **AREN'T** FOOLISH ENGKANTOS OR MINDLESS ASWANGS.
THESE ARE **WARRIORS**-- **TRAINED** TO KILL, LIKE ME AND KUBIN **ONCE** WERE.
AND THEY WILL STOP AT **NOTHING** TO ACHIEVE THEIR GOAL.
NOTHING.

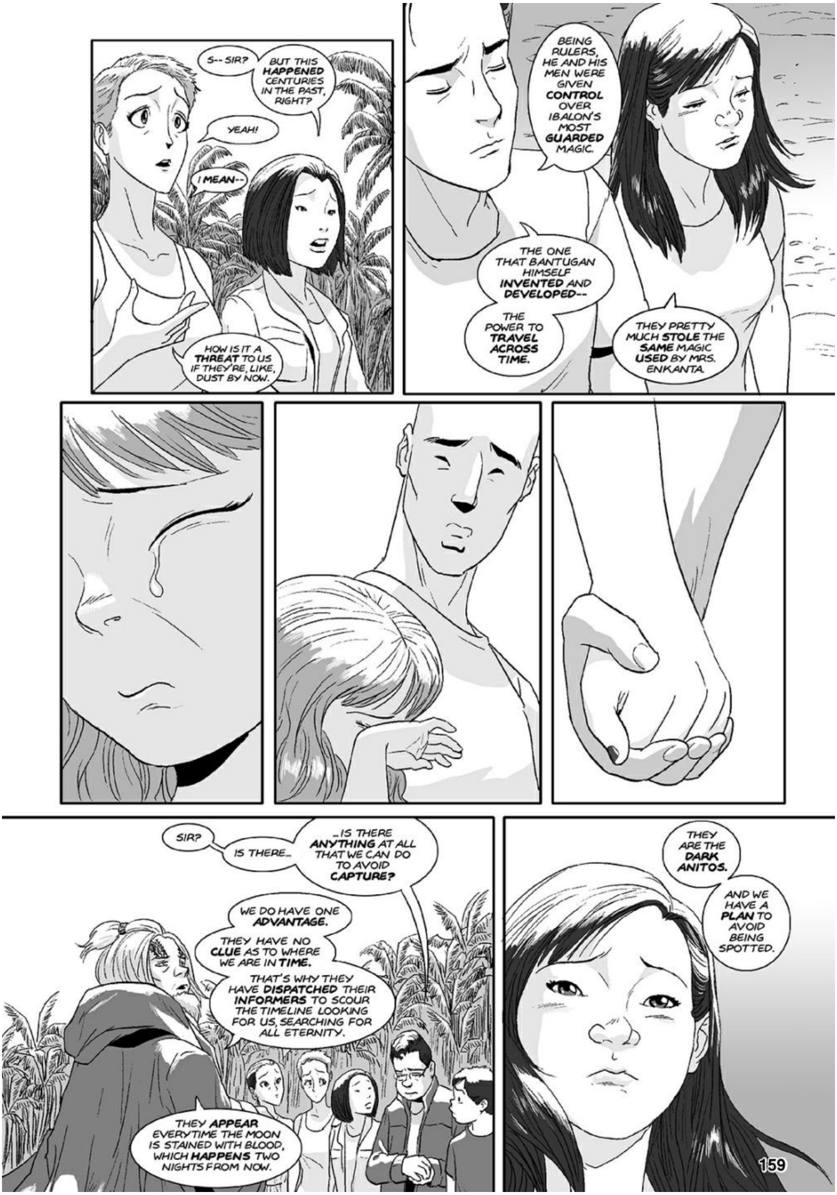

NICOLE, WE'RE ALL SET.
THANKS, LANE. LET'S DO THIS.
EVERYONE, YOU **READY?**
THIS IS IT.
23
I'M GOING TO TRY **CONNECTING** EVERYONE TOGETHER.
JUST RELAX.
**CLOSE** YOUR EYES.
AND NOW...
...**OPEN** THEM.
OH MOM...
...THIS IS SO **WEIRD!**

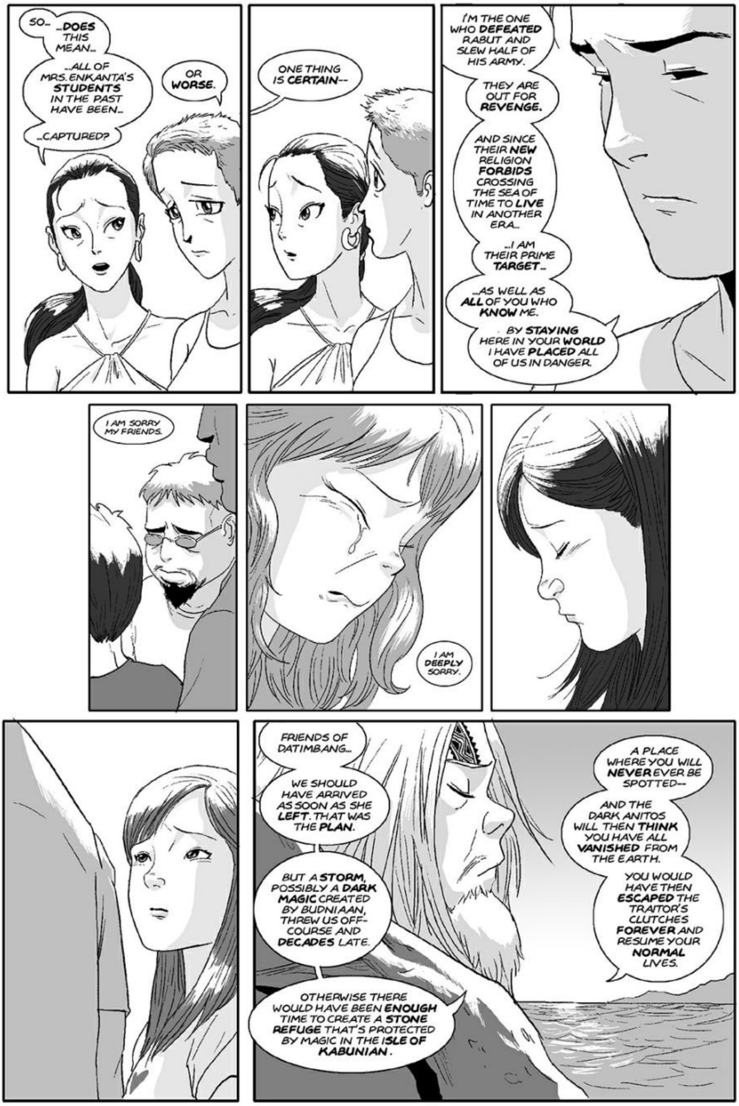

OY! SI SULAYMAN!
S-SUL?
HEY EVERYONE— IT'S SUL! HE'S COME BACK FOR US!
I AM INDARAPATRA, RULER OF MANTAPULI.
AN ALLY OF IBALON.
UNFORTUNATELY, NO. I AM NOT SULAYMAN.
HE IS MY BROTHER.
I HAVE ARRIVED IN YOUR WORLD TO OFFER MY HELP.
I HAVE LEARNED THAT YOU HAVE ALL EXPERIENCED "BUMABAKAL'S MESSAGE"
THAT IS THE NAME GIVEN TO THE NIGHTMARES YOU HAD. IT IS AN EXTREMELY RARE PHENOMENON.
BUMABAKAL, THE GOD OF OMENS, SENDS IT WHEN THERE IS A LIFE-THREATENING EVENT THAT WILL OCCUR.
OFTENTIMES THIS DREAM OR WARNING IS ONLY RECEIVED BY WARRIORS OR SOLDIERS TO HELP THEM SURVIVE OR ESCAPE PERIL.
THEY ARE ALSO THE ONES WHO CAN COPE WITH THE DREAMS BETTER.

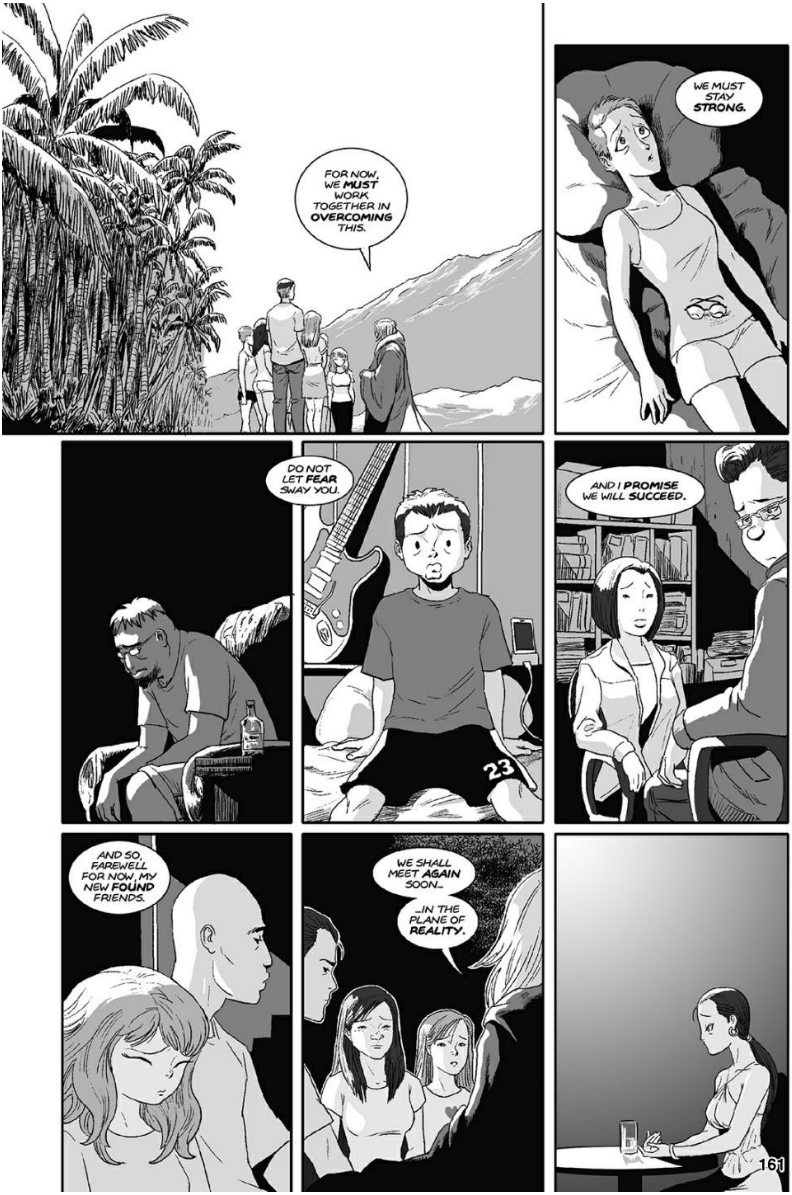

BUT DATIMBANG, YOUR **MRS. ENKANTA**, DECIDED THAT YOU BE **AWARE** OF ANY IMPENDING DANGER.
SO IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SHE **GIFTED** YOU ALL WITH THE ABILITY TO **RECEIVE** THE MESSAGE. MAYBE RIGHT **BEFORE** SHE LEFT.
IT IS **SAD** THAT YOU ALL HAD TO **SUFFER** THROUGH IT.
SAD **TOO** THAT DATIMBANG **NEVER** HAD THE CHANCE TO **EXPLAIN** TO YOU BEFORE GIVING THAT **ABILITY.**
BUT I AM SURE SHE DID IT IN GOOD **FAITH.**
SHE MUST HAVE REALLY **CARED** FOR YOU FOR HER TO DO THAT.
MY FRIENDS...
...HERE, NOW...
...IS THE **REASON** FOR THAT DREAM...

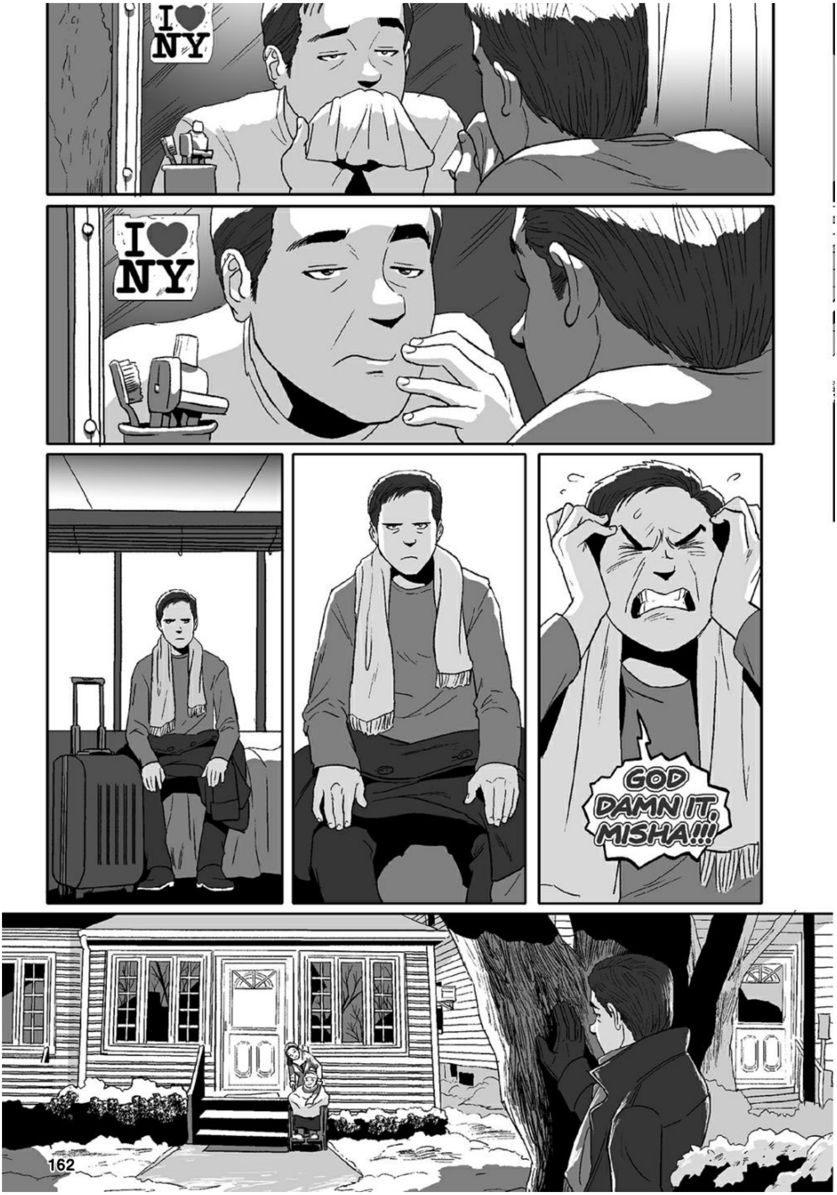

CENTURIES UPON CENTURIES AGO ...
...KUBIN AND I FOUGHT IN THE **GREAT BATTLE OF IBALON.**
WE **VANQUISHED** THE FORCES OF RABUT...
...AND **RESTORED** PEACE.
BUT WITHIN IBALON WAS A **TRAITOR.**
SOMEONE WHO WE WOULD **NEVER** HAVE **GUESSED** IN A HUNDRED YEARS.
A DESCENDANT OF **BALTOG**, THE VERY HERO WHO **SAVED** IBALON DURING THE FIRSTAGE.
HIS NAME IS **BUDNIAAN.**
PROUD OF BEING A BLOOD RELATIVE TO IBALON'S LEGENDARY WARRIOR , HE BECAME **ARROGANT.**
HE BELIEVED IN A **NEW** IBALON, REBORN AS A MILITARY KINGDOM WITH HIM AS ABSOLUTE RULER.

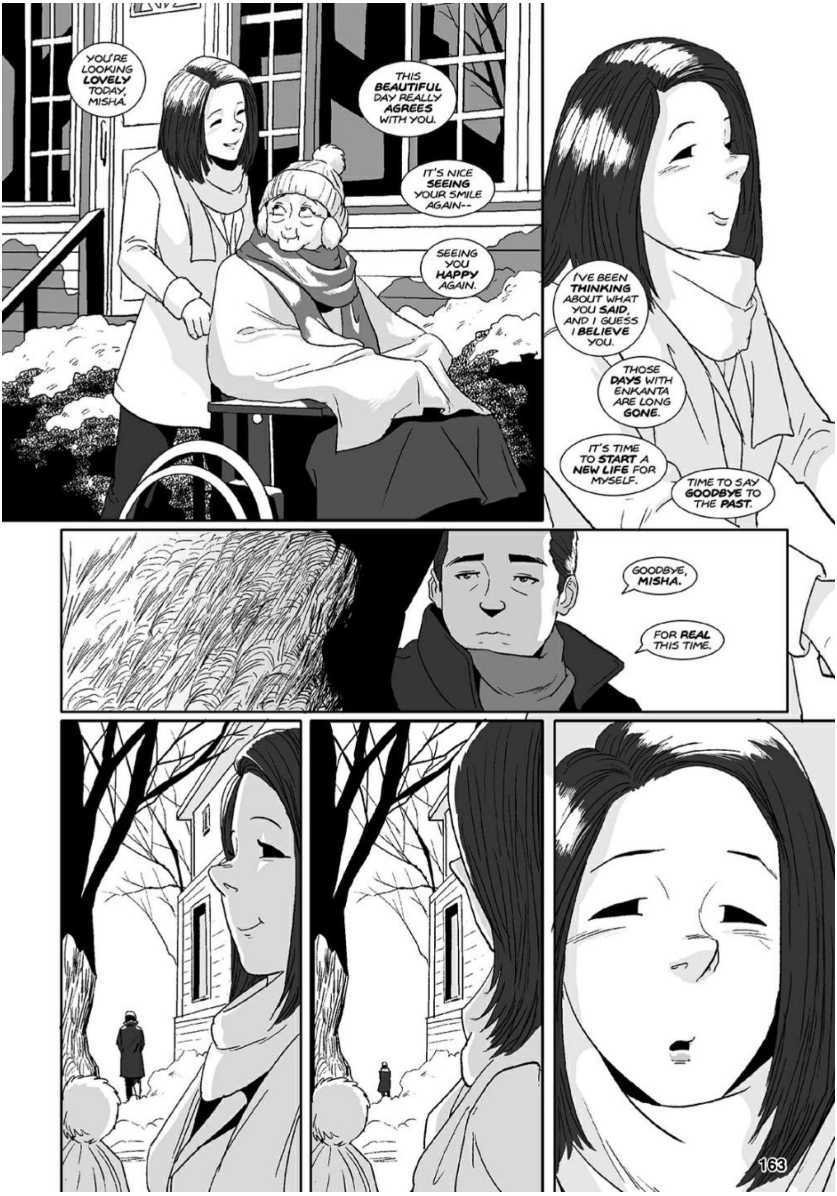

HE SECRETLY ALLIED WITH RABUT, THE ENEMY OF OLD.
HE SPREAD HIS FALSE IDEOLOGY TO EVERY IBALON WARRIOR WHO, EVENTUALLY, SUPPORTED HIM.
THE ROYALTIES WERE OVERTHROWN. AND THE KINGDOM CRUMBLED FROM WITHIN.
HE DESTROYED OUR LIBRARIES AND SCHOOLS, BURNED ALL WRITTEN RECORDS.
HE WAS GIVEN ACCESS TO IBALONS TECHNOLOGY AND MAGIC. SO ANY MAGIC USED OUTSIDE HIS KINGDOM WAS OUTLAWED
MOST SAGES AND BABAYLANS WERE EXECUTED. THOSE WHO REMAINED JOINED HIM.
THIS IS THE REASON WHY YOU NEVER FOUND ANY RECORDS ABOUT THIS INCIDENT.
HE THEN CREATED HIS OWN RELIGION.
ANY PRACTICE NOT FITTING HIS BELIEFS ARE CONSIDERED IMPURE.
AND VIOLATORS MUST BE CAPTURED AND SENTENCED TO DEATH.
THIS INCLUDES BANTUGAN AND DATIMBANG'S QUEST...
...AND ANYONE WHO HELPED THEM.

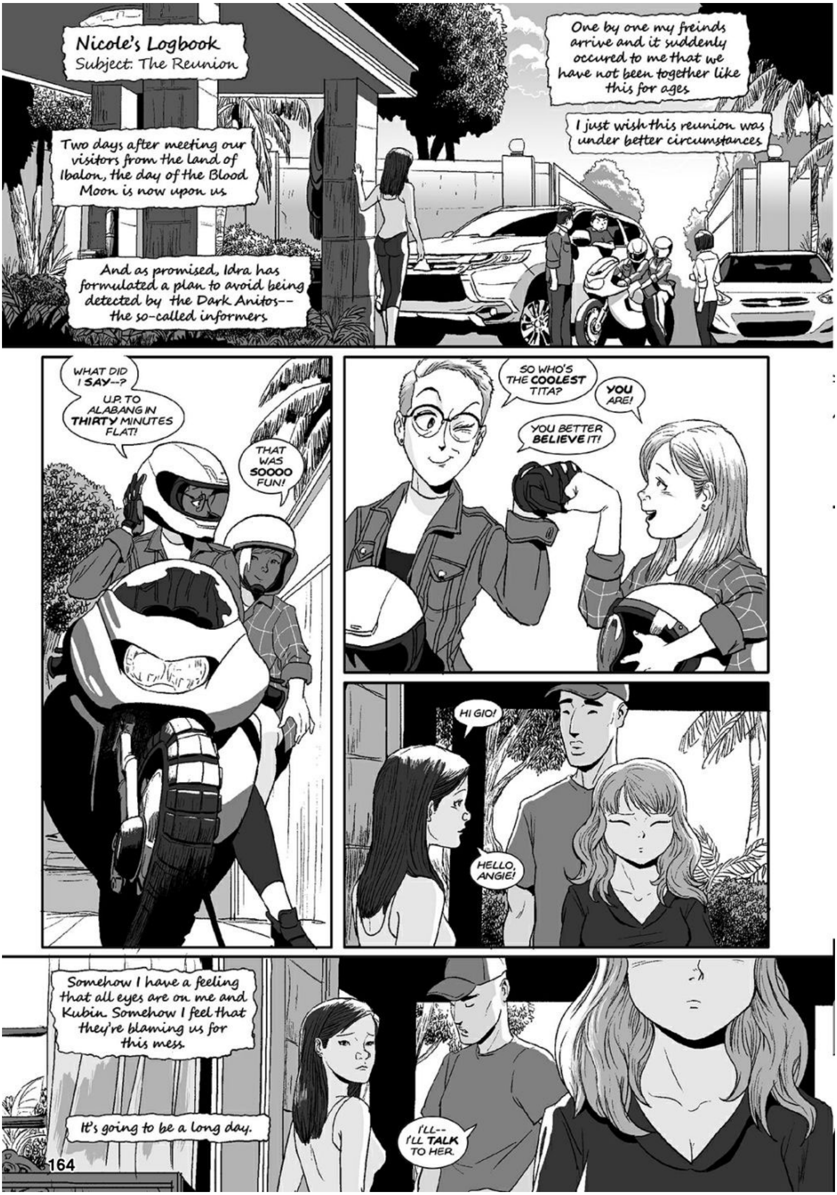

S-- SIR?
BUT THIS **HAPPENED** CENTURIES IN THE PAST, RIGHT?
YEAH!
I **MEAN**--
HOW IS IT A **THREAT** TO US IF THEY'RE, LIKE, DUST BY NOW.
BEING RULERS, HE AND HIS MEN WERE GIVEN **CONTROL** OVER IBALON'S MOST **GUARDED** MAGIC.
THE ONE THAT BANTUGAN HIMSELF **INVENTED** AND **DEVELOPED**--
THE POWER TO **TRAVEL ACROSS TIME.**
THEY PRETTY MUCH **STOLE** THE **SAME** MAGIC **USED** BY MRS. ENKANTA.
SIR?
IS THERE...
...IS THERE **ANYTHING** AT ALL THAT WE CAN DO TO AVOID **CAPTURE?**
WE DO HAVE ONE **ADVANTAGE.**
THEY HAVE NO **CLUE** AS TO WHERE WE ARE IN **TIME.**
THAT'S WHY THEY HAVE **DISPATCHED** THEIR **INFORMERS** TO SCOUR THE TIMELINE LOOKING FOR US, SEARCHING FOR ALL ETERNITY.
THEY **APPEAR** EVERYTIME THE MOON IS STAINED WITH BLOOD, WHICH **HAPPENS** TWO NIGHTS FROM NOW.
THEY ARE THE **DARK ANITOS.**
AND WE HAVE A **PLAN** TO AVOID BEING SPOTTED.

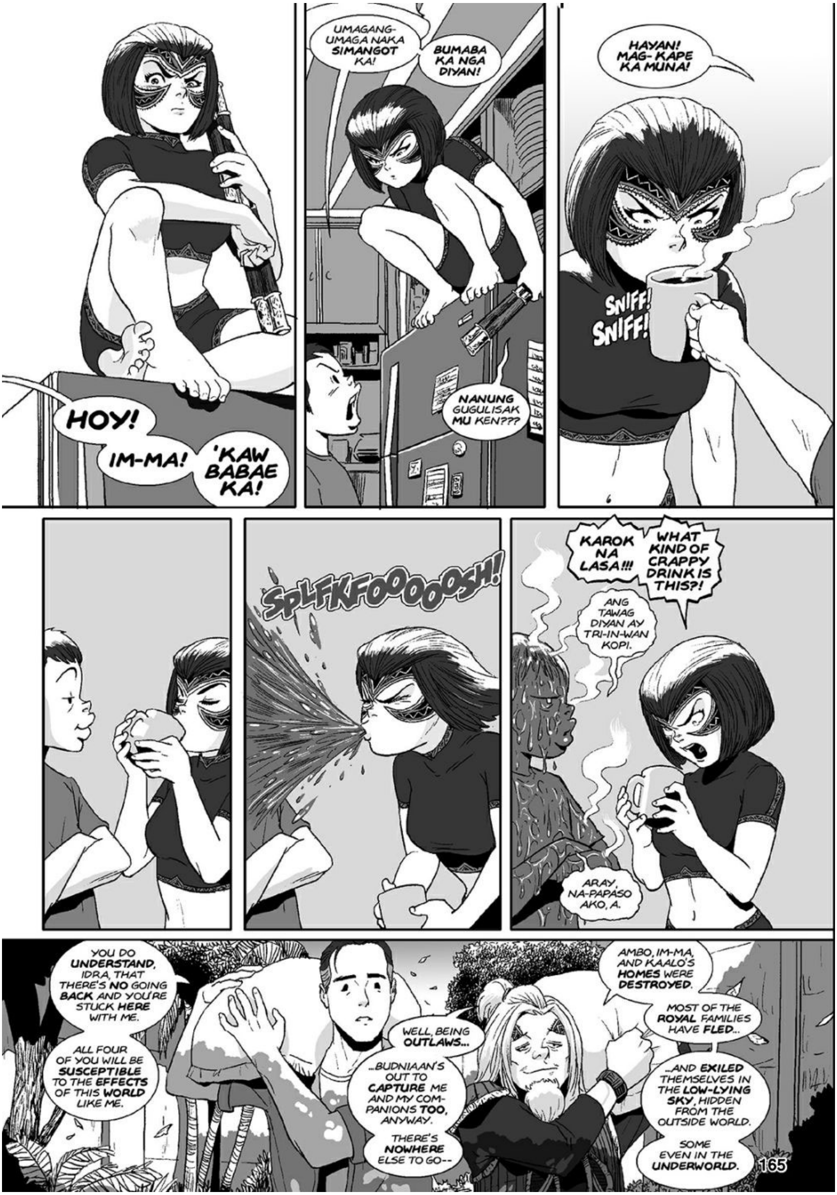

SO... ...DOES THIS MEAN...
...ALL OF MRS. ENKANTA'S STUDENTS IN THE PAST HAVE BEEN...
...CAPTURED?
OR WORSE.
ONE THING IS CERTAIN--
I'M THE ONE WHO DEFEATED RABUT AND SLEW HALF OF HIS ARMY.
THEY ARE OUT FOR REVENGE.
AND SINCE THEIR NEW RELIGION FORBIDS CROSSING THE SEA OF TIME TO LIVE IN ANOTHER ERA...
...I AM THEIR PRIME TARGET...
...AS WELL AS ALL OF YOU WHO KNOW ME.
BY STAYING HERE IN YOUR WORLD I HAVE PLACED ALL OF US IN DANGER.
I AM SORRY MY FRIENDS.
I AM DEEPLY SORRY.
FRIENDS OF DATIMBANG...
WE SHOULD HAVE ARRIVED AS SOON AS SHE LEFT. THAT WAS THE PLAN.
BUT A STORM, POSSIBLY A DARK MAGIC CREATED BY BUDNIAAN, THREW US OFF-COURSE AND DECADES LATE.
OTHERWISE THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN ENOUGH TIME TO CREATE A STONE REFUGE THAT'S PROTECTED BY MAGIC IN THE ISLE OF KABUNIAN.
A PLACE WHERE YOU WILL NEVER EVER BE SPOTTED--
AND THE DARK ANITOS WILL THEN THINK YOU HAVE ALL VANISHED FROM THE EARTH.
YOU WOULD HAVE THEN ESCAPED THE TRAITOR'S CLUTCHES FOREVER AND RESUME YOUR NORMAL LIVES.

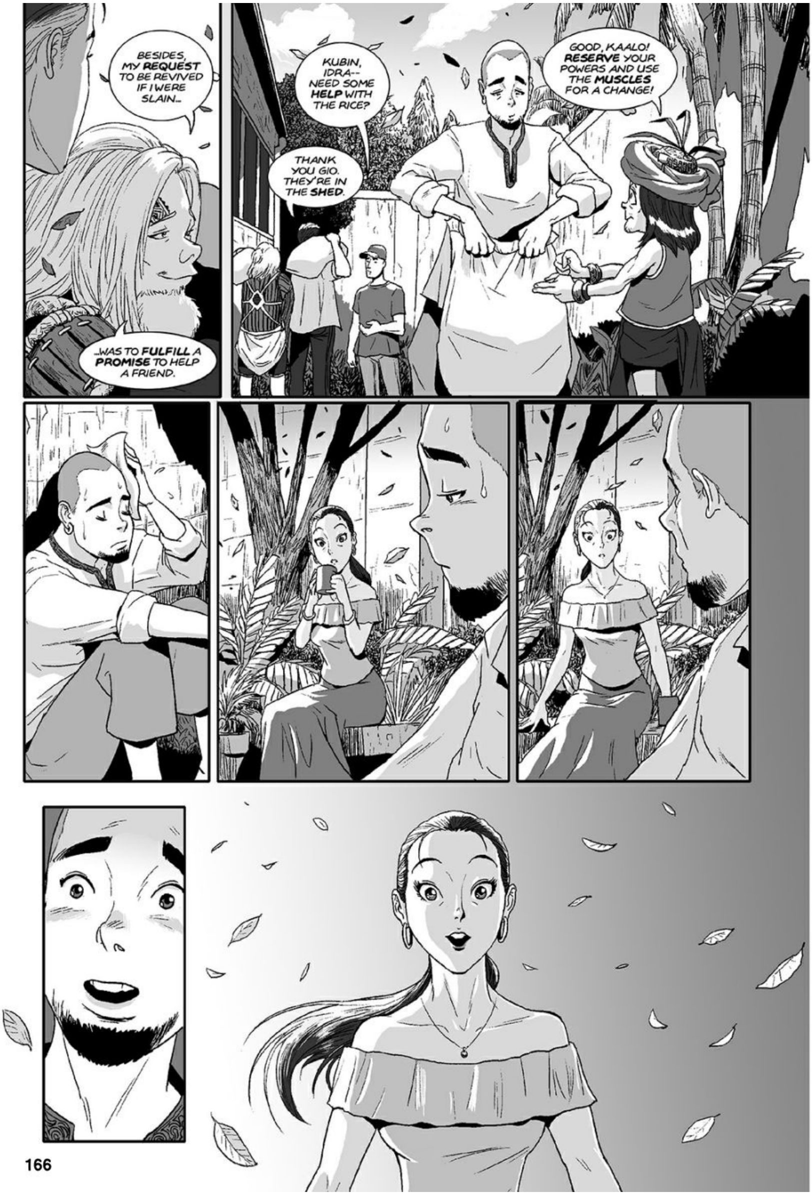

FOR NOW, WE **MUST** WORK TOGETHER IN **OVERCOMING** THIS.
WE MUST STAY **STRONG**.
DO NOT LET **FEAR** SWAY YOU.
23
AND I **PROMISE** WE WILL **SUCCEED**.
AND SO, FAREWELL FOR NOW, MY NEW **FOUND** FRIENDS.
WE SHALL MEET **AGAIN** SOON...
...IN THE PLANE OF **REALITY**.

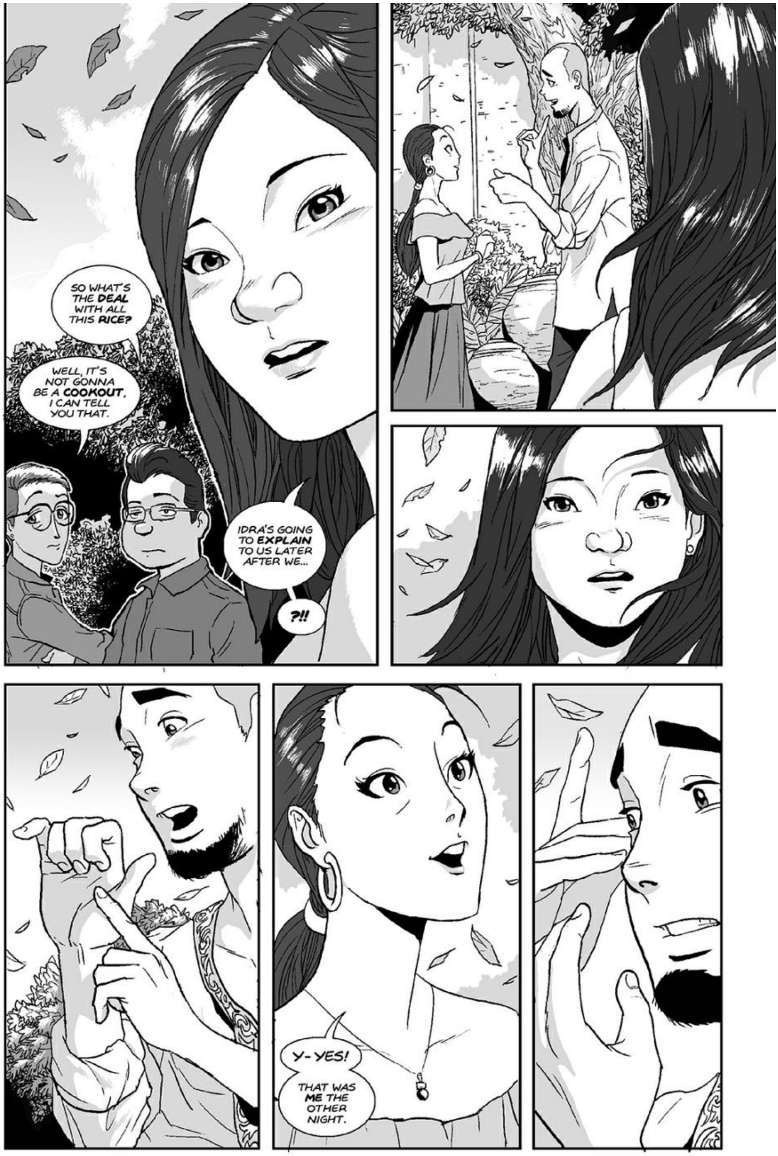

I ♥ NY
I ♥ NY
GOD DAMN IT, MISHA!!!

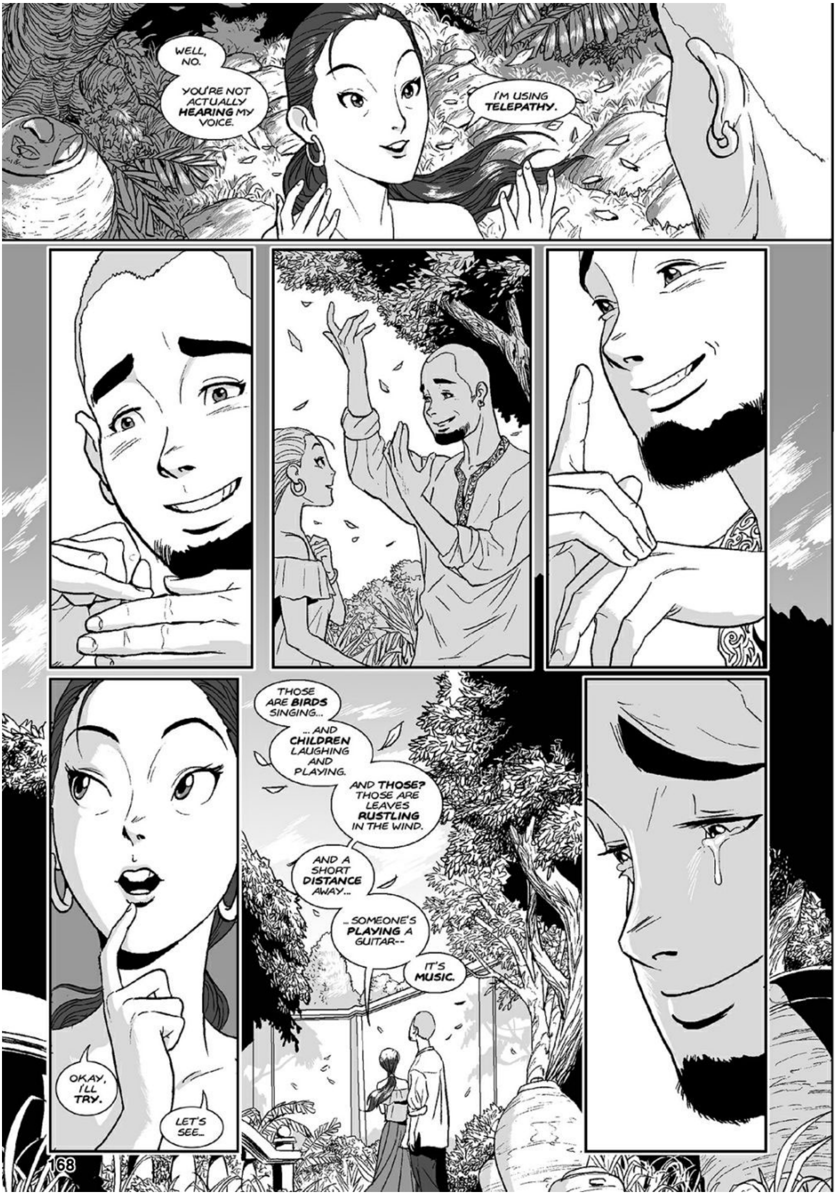

YOU'RE LOOKING **LOVELY** TODAY, MISHA.
THIS **BEAUTIFUL** DAY REALLY **AGREES** WITH YOU.
IT'S NICE **SEEING** YOUR SMILE AGAIN--
SEEING YOU **HAPPY** AGAIN.
I'VE BEEN **THINKING** ABOUT WHAT YOU **SAID**, AND I GUESS I **BELIEVE** YOU.
THOSE **DAYS** WITH ENKANTA ARE LONG **GONE**.
IT'S TIME TO **START** A **NEW LIFE** FOR MYSELF.
TIME TO SAY **GOODBYE** TO THE **PAST**.
GOODBYE, **MISHA.**
FOR **REAL** THIS TIME.

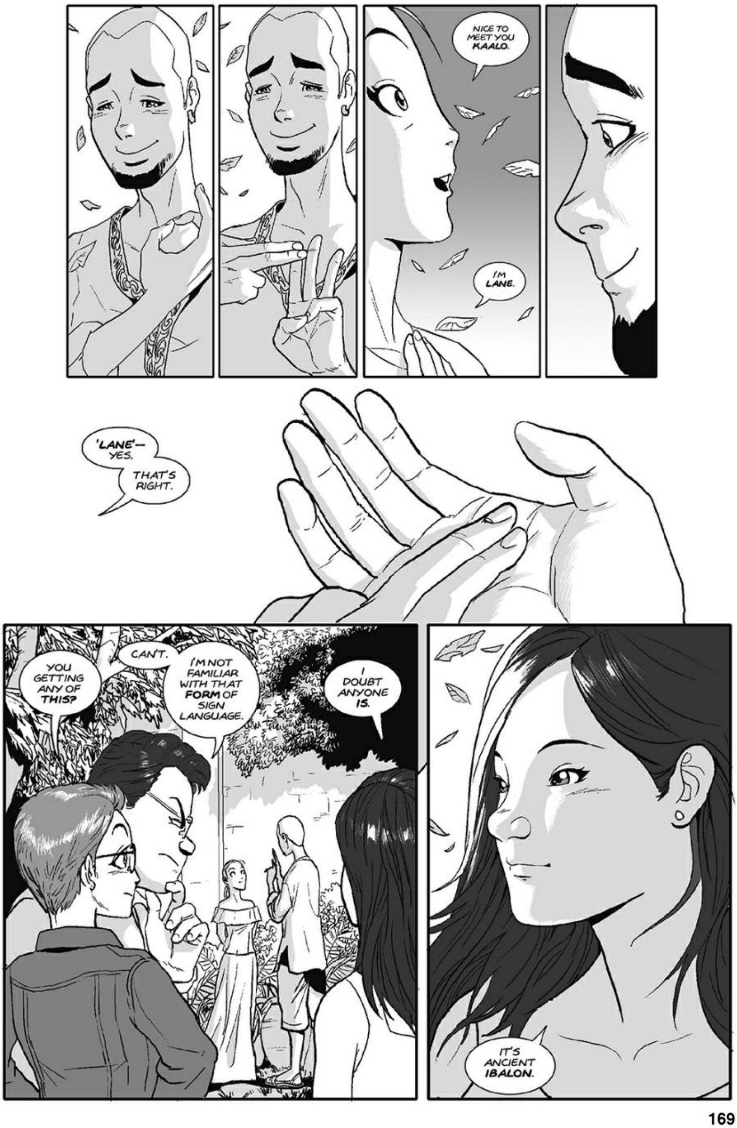

Nicole's Logbook
Subject: The Reunion
Two days after meeting our visitors from the land of Ibalon, the day of the Blood Moon is now upon us
And as promised, Idra has formulated a plan to avoid being detected by the Dark Anitos-- the so-called informers
One by one my freinds arrive and it suddenly occured to me that we have not been together like this for ages
I just wish this reunion was under better circumstances
WHAT DID I SAY--? U.P. TO ALABANG IN THIRTY MINUTES FLAT!
THAT WAS SOOOO FUN!
SO WHO'S THE COOLEST TITA?
YOU ARE!
YOU BETTER BELIEVE IT!
HI GIO!
HELLO, ANGIE!
Somehow I have a feeling that all eyes are on me and Kubin. Somehow I feel that they're blaming us for this mess.
It's going to be a long day.
I'LL-- I'LL TALK TO HER.

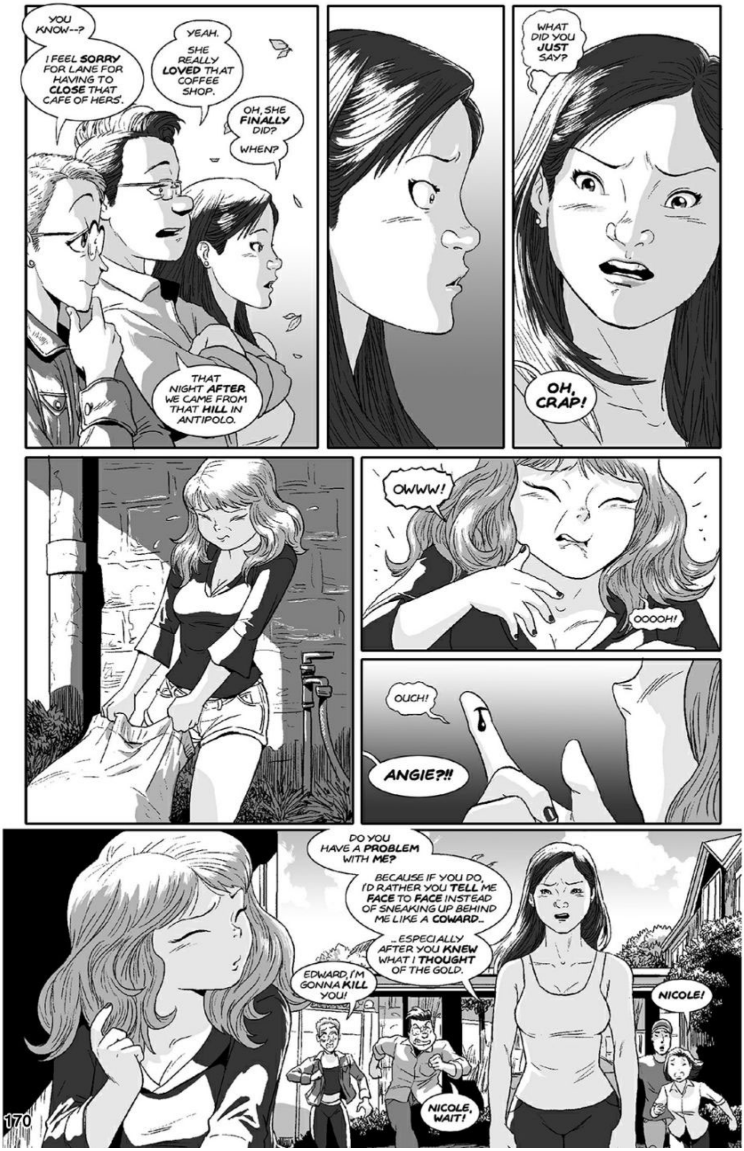

HOY!
IM-MA!
'KAW BABAE KA!
UMAGANG-UMAGA NAKA SIMANGOT KA!
BUMABA KA NGA DIYAN!
NANUNG GUGULISAK MU KEN???
HAYAN! MAG-KAPE KA MUNA!
SNIFF! SNIFF!
SPLFKFOOOOOOSH!
KAROK NA LASA!!!
WHAT KIND OF CRAPPY DRINK IS THIS?!
ANG TAWAG DIYAN AY TRI-IN-WAN KOPI.
ARAY, NA-PAPASO AKO, A.
YOU DO UNDERSTAND, IDRA, THAT THERE'S NO GOING BACK AND YOU'RE STUCK HERE WITH ME.
ALL FOUR OF YOU WILL BE SUSCEPTIBLE TO THE EFFECTS OF THIS WORLD LIKE ME.
WELL, BEING OUTLAWS...
...BUDNIAAN'S OUT TO CAPTURE ME AND MY COMPANIONS TOO, ANYWAY.
THERE'S NOWHERE ELSE TO GO--
AMBO, IM-MA, AND KAALO'S HOMES WERE DESTROYED.
MOST OF THE ROYAL FAMILIES HAVE FLED...
...AND EXILED THEMSELVES IN THE LOW-LYING SKY, HIDDEN FROM THE OUTSIDE WORLD.
SOME EVEN IN THE UNDERWORLD.

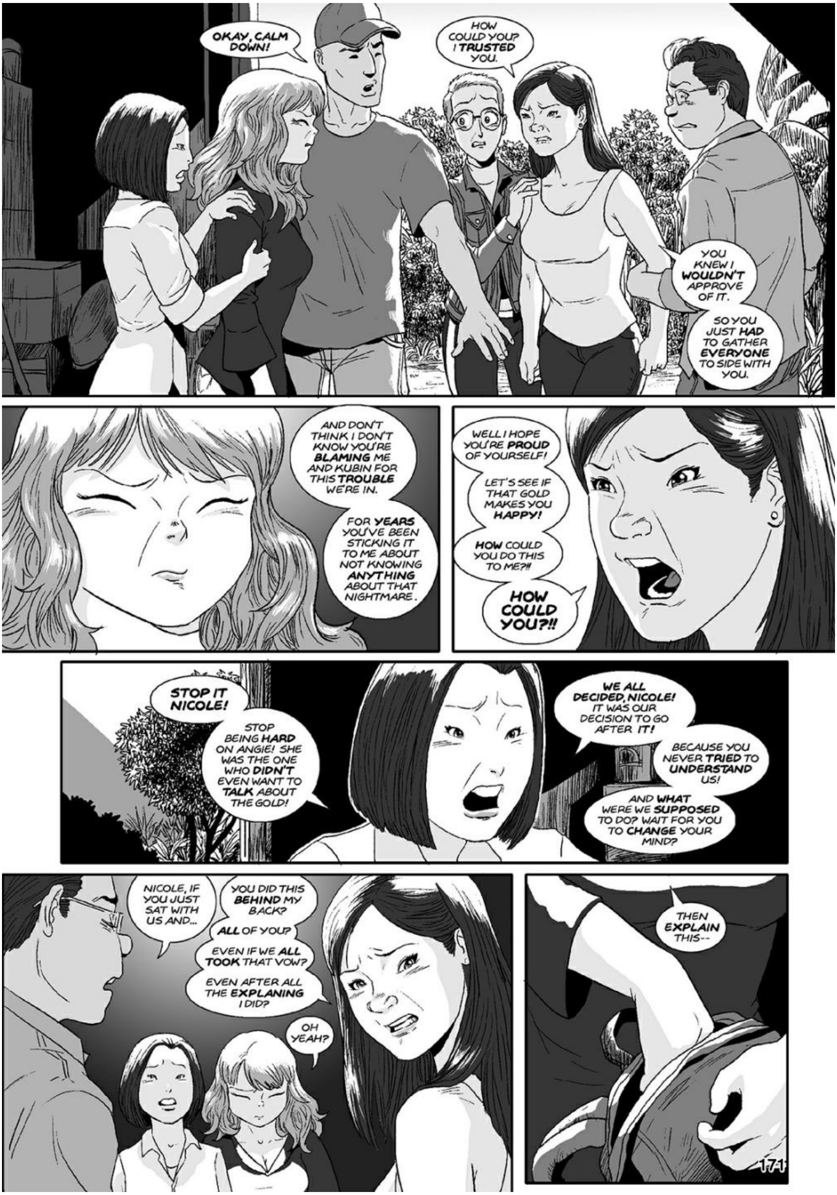

BESIDES, MY REQUEST TO BE REVIVED IF I WERE SLAIN...
...WAS TO FULFILL A PROMISE TO HELP A FRIEND.
KUBIN, IDRA-- NEED SOME HELP WITH THE RICE?
THANK YOU GIO. THEY'RE IN THE SHED.
GOOD, KAALO! RESERVE YOUR POWERS AND USE THE MUSCLES FOR A CHANGE!

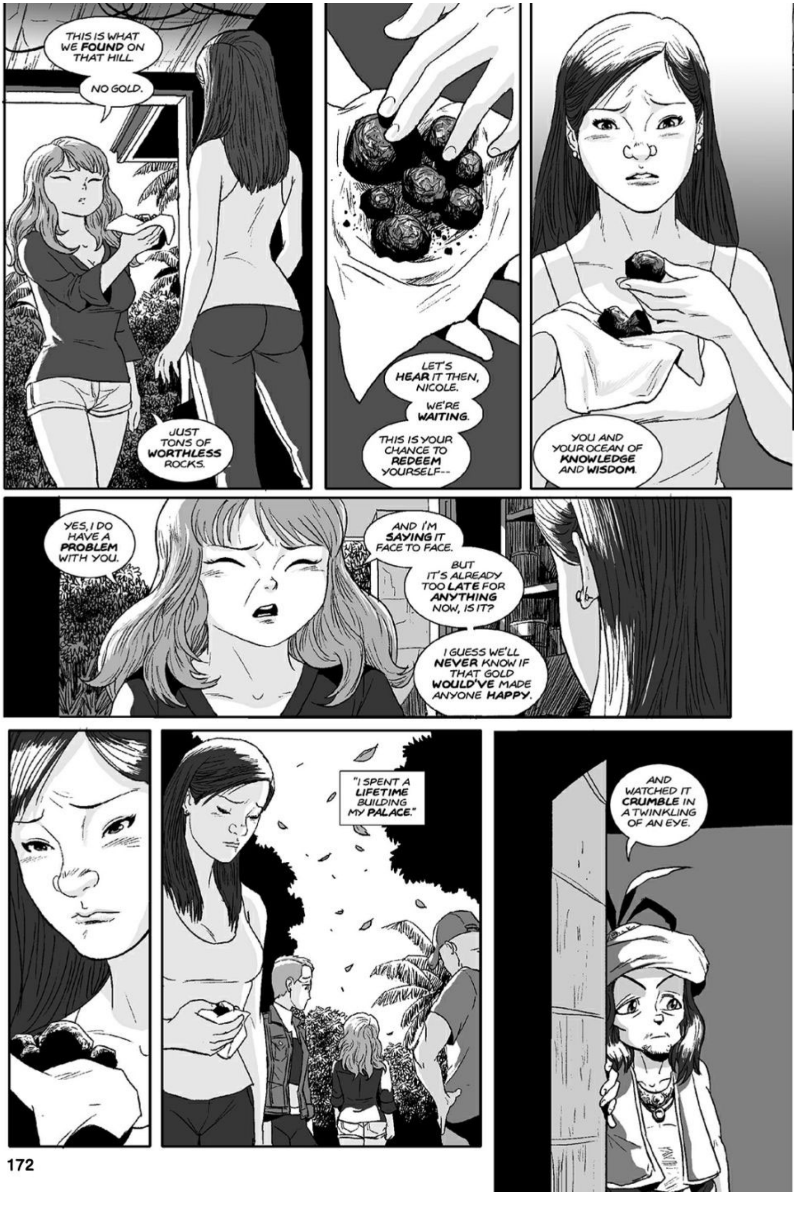

SO WHAT'S THE **DEAL** WITH ALL THIS **RICE?**
WELL, IT'S NOT GONNA BE A **COOKOUT**, I CAN TELL YOU THAT.
IDRA'S GOING TO **EXPLAIN** TO US LATER AFTER WE...
?!!
Y-YES!
THAT WAS **ME** THE OTHER NIGHT.

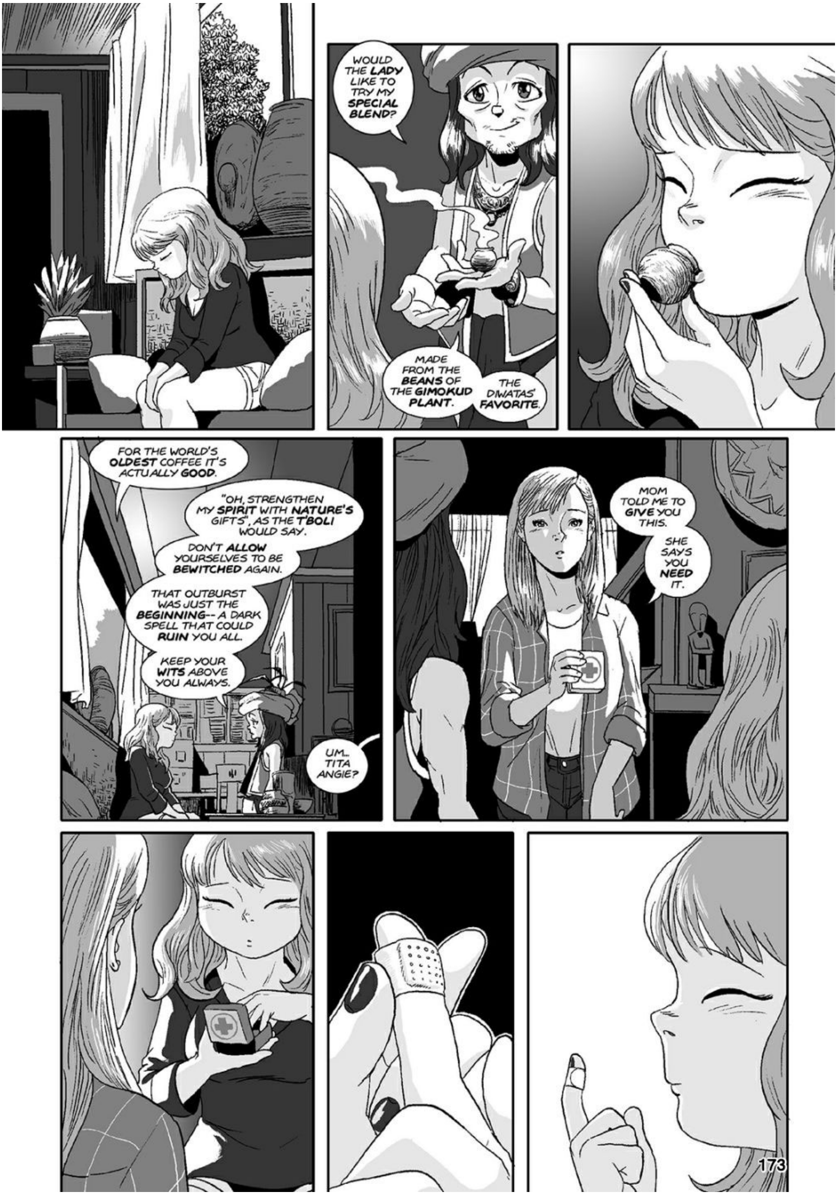

WELL, NO.
YOU'RE NOT ACTUALLY **HEARING** MY VOICE.
I'M USING **TELEPATHY.**
OKAY, I'LL **TRY.**
LET'S SEE...
THOSE ARE **BIRDS** SINGING...
...AND **CHILDREN** LAUGHING AND PLAYING.
AND **THOSE?** THOSE ARE LEAVES **RUSTLING** IN THE WIND.
AND A SHORT **DISTANCE** AWAY...
...SOMEONE'S **PLAYING** A GUITAR--
IT'S **MUSIC.**

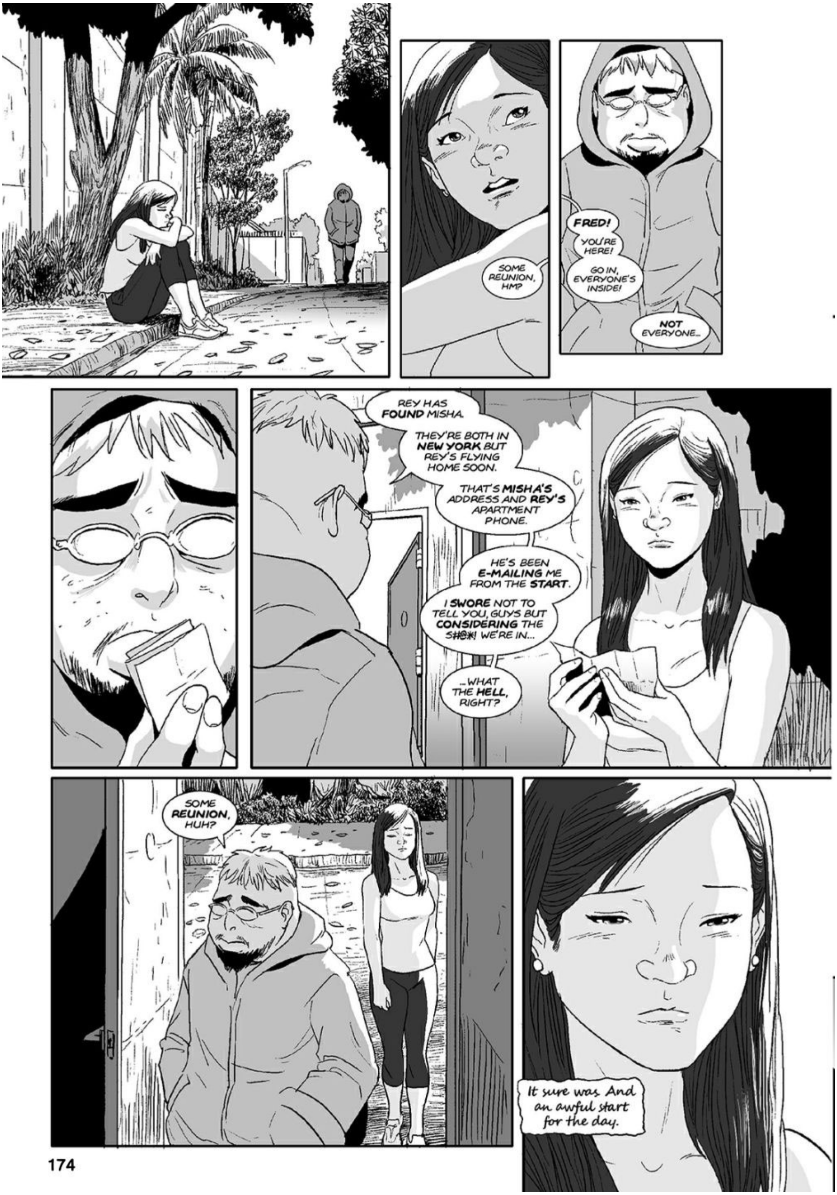

NICE TO MEET YOU **KAALO**.
I'M **LANE**.
'**LANE**'— YES. THAT'S RIGHT.
YOU GETTING ANY OF **THIS?**
CAN'T.
I'M NOT FAMILIAR WITH THAT **FORM** OF SIGN LANGUAGE.
I DOUBT ANYONE **IS**.
IT'S ANCIENT **IBALON**.

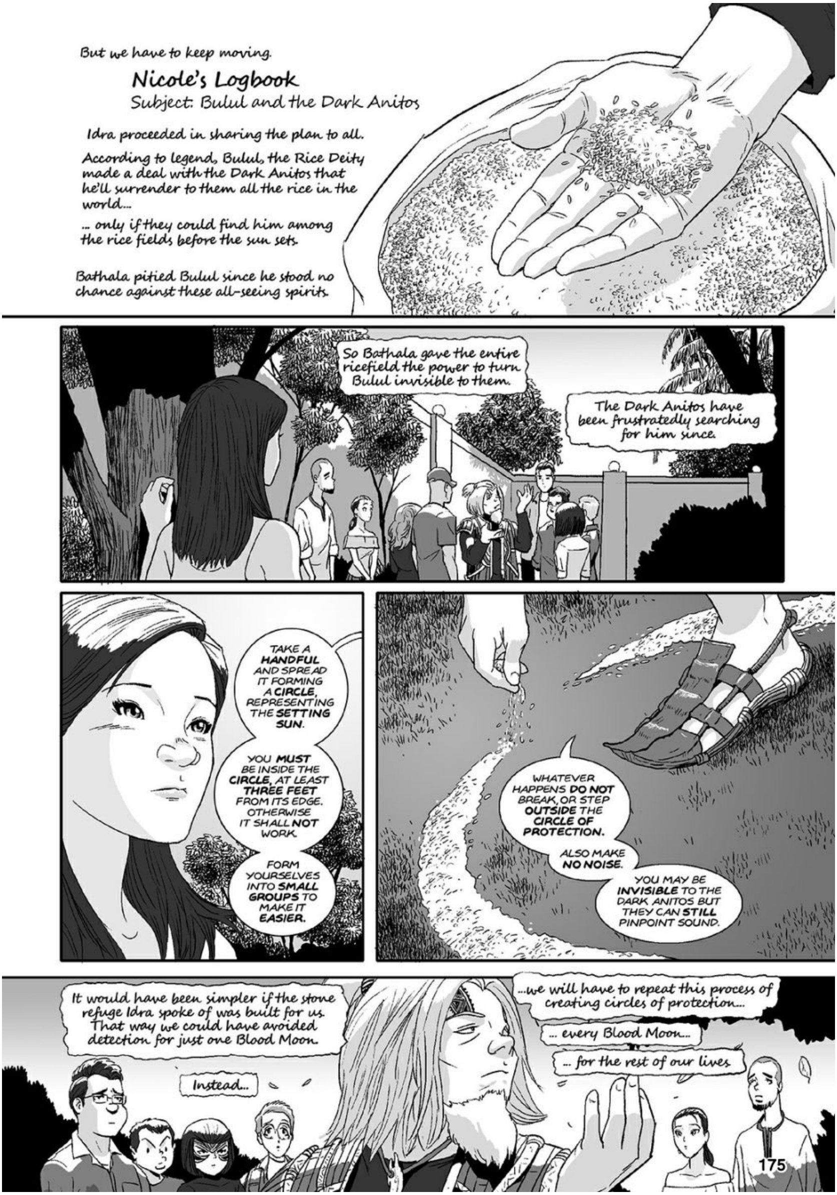

YOU KNOW--?
I FEEL **SORRY** FOR LANE FOR HAVING TO **CLOSE** THAT CAFE OF HERS.
YEAH.
SHE REALLY **LOVED** THAT COFFEE SHOP.
OH, SHE **FINALLY** DID?
WHEN?
THAT NIGHT **AFTER** WE CAME FROM THAT **HILL** IN ANTIPOLO.
WHAT DID YOU **JUST** SAY?
OH, CRAP!
OWWW!
OOOOH!
OUCH!
ANGIE?!!
DO YOU HAVE A **PROBLEM** WITH **ME?**
BECAUSE IF YOU DO, I'D RATHER YOU **TELL** ME **FACE** TO **FACE** INSTEAD OF SNEAKING UP BEHIND ME LIKE A **COWARD**..
.. ESPECIALLY AFTER YOU **KNEW** WHAT I **THOUGHT** OF THE GOLD.
EDWARD, I'M GONNA **KILL** YOU!
NICOLE, WAIT!
NICOLE!

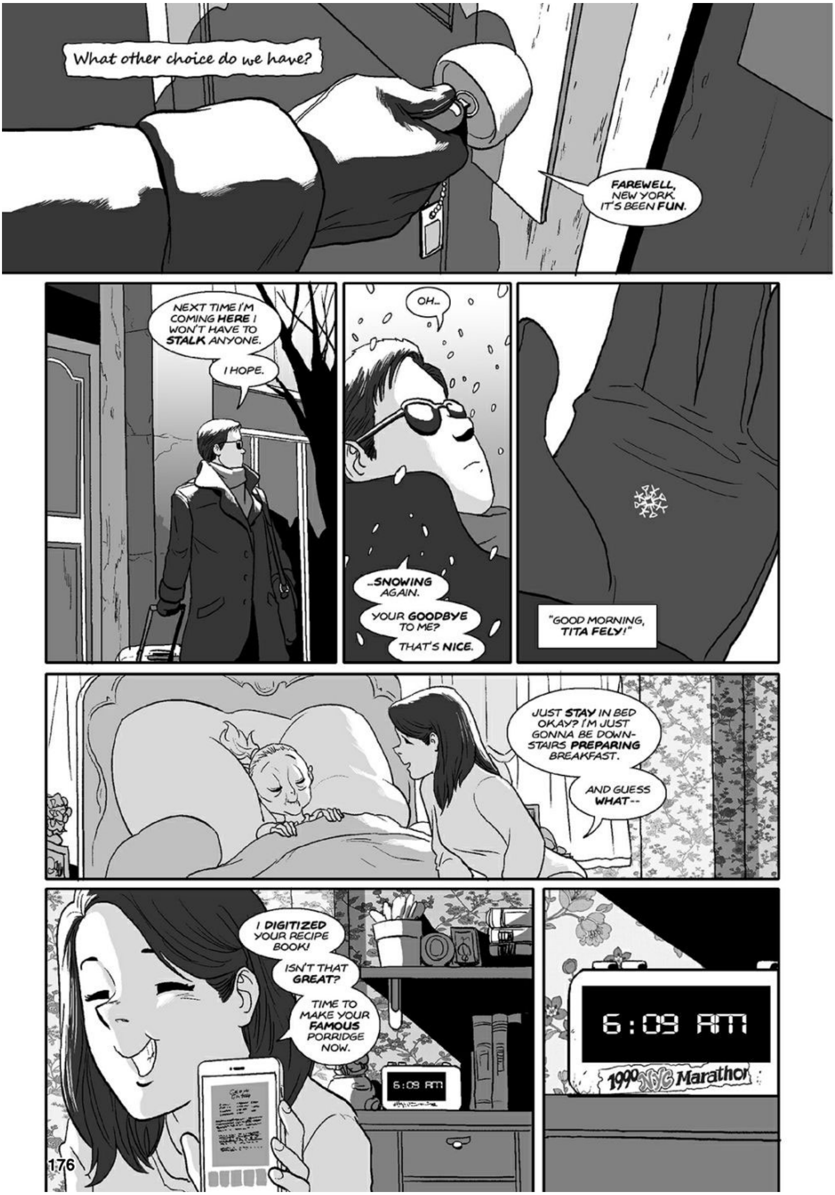

OKAY, CALM DOWN!
HOW COULD YOU? I TRUSTED YOU.
YOU KNEW I WOULDN'T APPROVE OF IT.
SO YOU JUST HAD TO GATHER EVERYONE TO SIDE WITH YOU.
AND DON'T THINK I DON'T KNOW YOU'RE BLAMING ME AND KUBIN FOR THIS TROUBLE WE'RE IN.
FOR YEARS YOU'VE BEEN STICKING IT TO ME ABOUT NOT KNOWING ANYTHING ABOUT THAT NIGHTMARE.
WELL I HOPE YOU'RE PROUD OF YOURSELF!
LET'S SEE IF THAT GOLD MAKES YOU HAPPY!
HOW COULD YOU DO THIS TO ME?!!
HOW COULD YOU?!!
STOP IT NICOLE!
STOP BEING HARD ON ANGIE! SHE WAS THE ONE WHO DIDN'T EVEN WANT TO TALK ABOUT THE GOLD!
WE ALL DECIDED, NICOLE! IT WAS OUR DECISION TO GO AFTER IT!
BECAUSE YOU NEVER TRIED TO UNDERSTAND US!
AND WHAT WERE WE SUPPOSED TO DO? WAIT FOR YOU TO CHANGE YOUR MIND?
NICOLE, IF YOU JUST SAT WITH US AND...
YOU DID THIS BEHIND MY BACK?
ALL OF YOU?
EVEN IF WE ALL TOOK THAT VOW?
EVEN AFTER ALL THE EXPLANING I DID?
OH YEAH?
THEN EXPLAIN THIS--

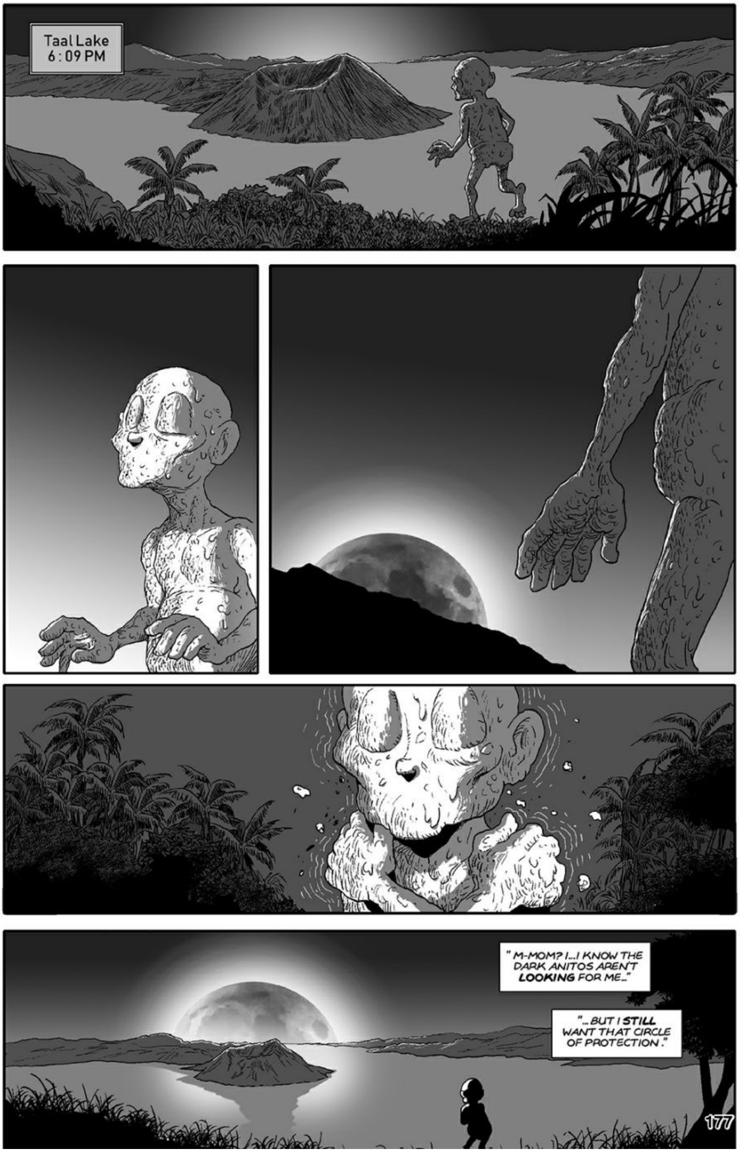

THIS IS WHAT WE **FOUND** ON THAT HILL.
NO GOLD.
JUST TONS OF **WORTHLESS** ROCKS.
LET'S **HEAR** IT THEN, NICOLE.
WE'RE **WAITING**.
THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO **REDEEM** YOURSELF--
YOU AND YOUR OCEAN OF **KNOWLEDGE** AND **WISDOM**.
YES, I DO HAVE A **PROBLEM** WITH YOU.
AND I'M **SAYING** IT FACE TO FACE.
BUT IT'S ALREADY TOO **LATE** FOR **ANYTHING** NOW, IS IT?
I GUESS WE'LL **NEVER** KNOW IF THAT GOLD **WOULD'VE** MADE ANYONE **HAPPY**.
"I SPENT A **LIFETIME** BUILDING MY **PALACE**."
AND WATCHED IT **CRUMBLE** IN A TWINKLING OF AN EYE.

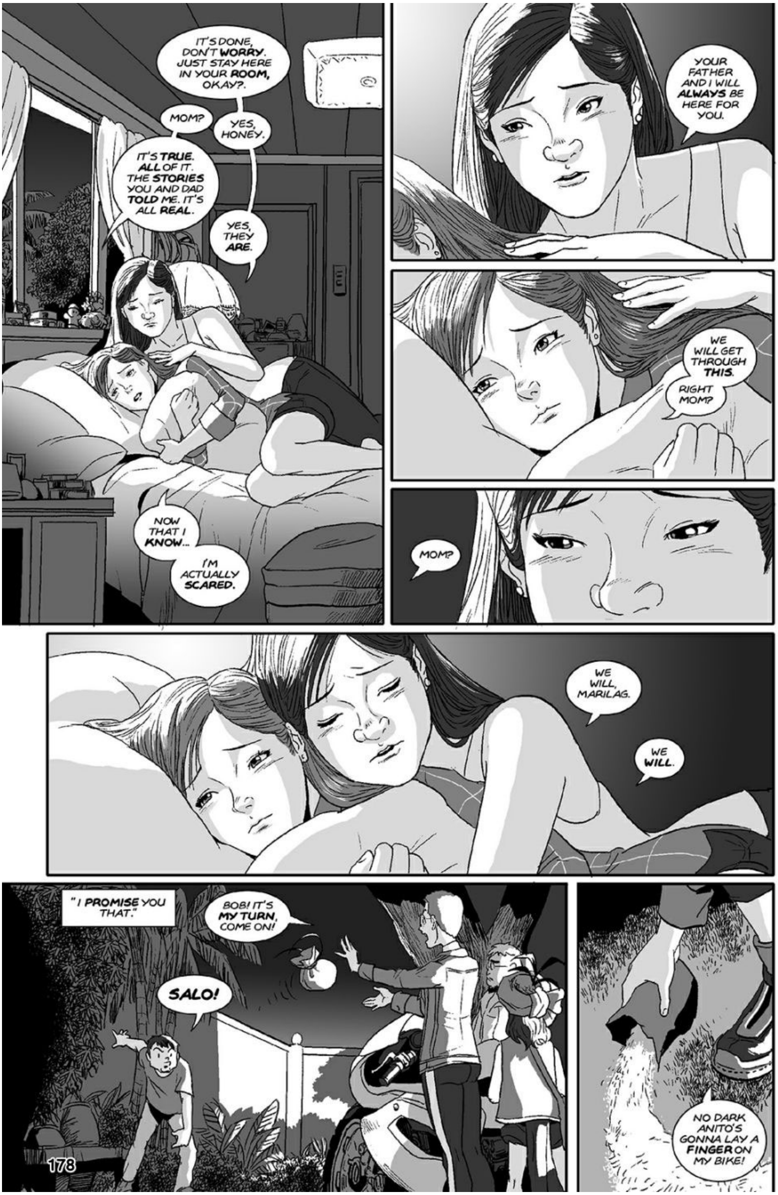

WOULD THE **LADY** LIKE TO TRY MY **SPECIAL BLEND**?
MADE FROM THE **BEANS** OF THE **GIMOKUD PLANT**.
THE DIWATAS' **FAVORITE**.
FOR THE WORLD'S **OLDEST** COFFEE IT'S ACTUALLY **GOOD**.
"OH, STRENGTHEN MY **SPIRIT** WITH **NATURE'S** GIFTS", AS THE **T'BOLI** WOULD SAY.
DON'T **ALLOW** YOURSELVES TO BE **BEWITCHED** AGAIN.
THAT OUTBURST WAS JUST THE **BEGINNING**-- A DARK SPELL THAT COULD **RUIN** YOU ALL.
KEEP YOUR **WITS** ABOVE YOU ALWAYS.
UM... TITA ANGIE?
MOM TOLD ME TO **GIVE** YOU THIS.
SHE SAYS YOU **NEED** IT.

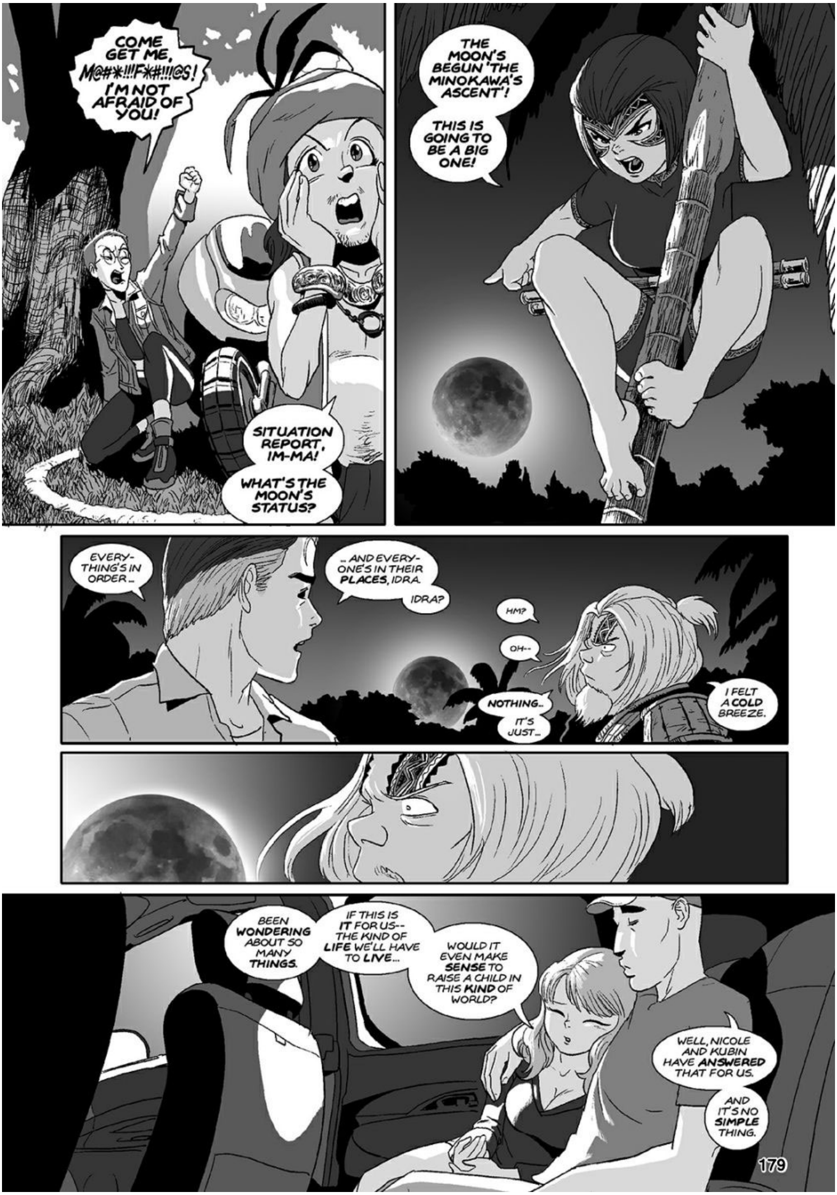

SOME REUNION, HM?
FRED!
YOU'RE HERE!
GO IN, EVERYONE'S INSIDE!
NOT EVERYONE...
REY HAS FOUND MISHA.
THEY'RE BOTH IN NEW YORK BUT REY'S FLYING HOME SOON.
THAT'S MISHA'S ADDRESS AND REY'S APARTMENT PHONE.
HE'S BEEN E-MAILING ME FROM THE START.
I SWORE NOT TO TELL YOU, GUYS BUT CONSIDERING THE $#@*! WE'RE IN...
...WHAT THE HELL, RIGHT?
SOME REUNION, HUH?
It sure was And an awful start for the day.

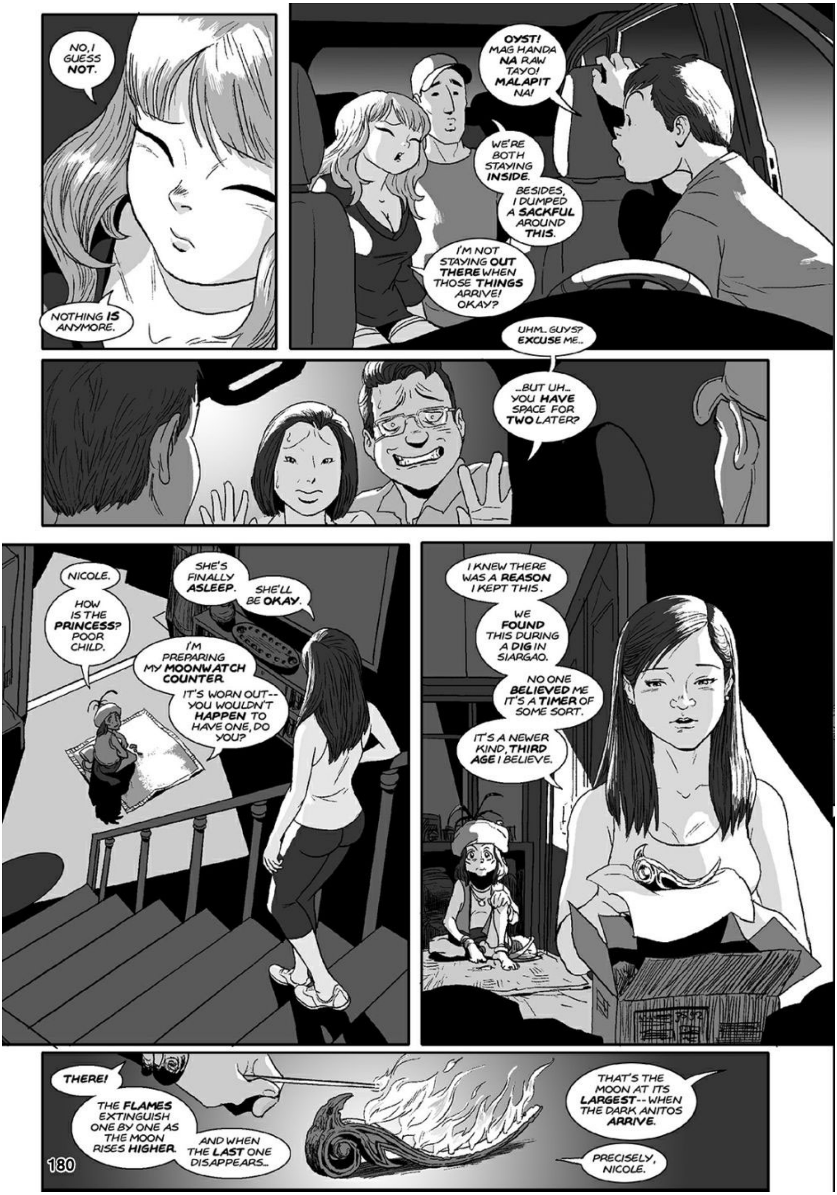

But we have to keep moving.
Nicole's Logbook
Subject: Bulul and the Dark Anitos
Idra proceeded in sharing the plan to all.
According to legend, Bulul, the Rice Deity made a deal with the Dark Anitos that he'll surrender to them all the rice in the world...
... only if they could find him among the rice fields before the sun sets.
Bathala pitied Bulul since he stood no chance against these all-seeing spirits.
So Bathala gave the entire ricefield the power to turn Bulul invisible to them.
The Dark Anitos have been frustratedly searching for him since.
TAKE A **HANDFUL** AND SPREAD IT FORMING A **CIRCLE**, REPRESENTING THE **SETTING SUN**.
YOU **MUST** BE INSIDE THE **CIRCLE**, AT LEAST **THREE FEET** FROM ITS EDGE. OTHERWISE IT SHALL **NOT** WORK.
FORM YOURSELVES INTO **SMALL GROUPS** TO MAKE IT **EASIER**.
WHATEVER HAPPENS **DO NOT** BREAK, OR STEP **OUTSIDE** THE **CIRCLE OF PROTECTION**.
ALSO MAKE **NO NOISE**.
YOU MAY BE **INVISIBLE** TO THE DARK ANITOS BUT THEY CAN **STILL** PINPOINT SOUND.
It would have been simpler if the stone refuge Idra spoke of was built for us. That way we could have avoided detection for just one Blood Moon.
Instead...
...we will have to repeat this process of creating circles of protection...
... every Blood Moon...
... for the rest of our lives

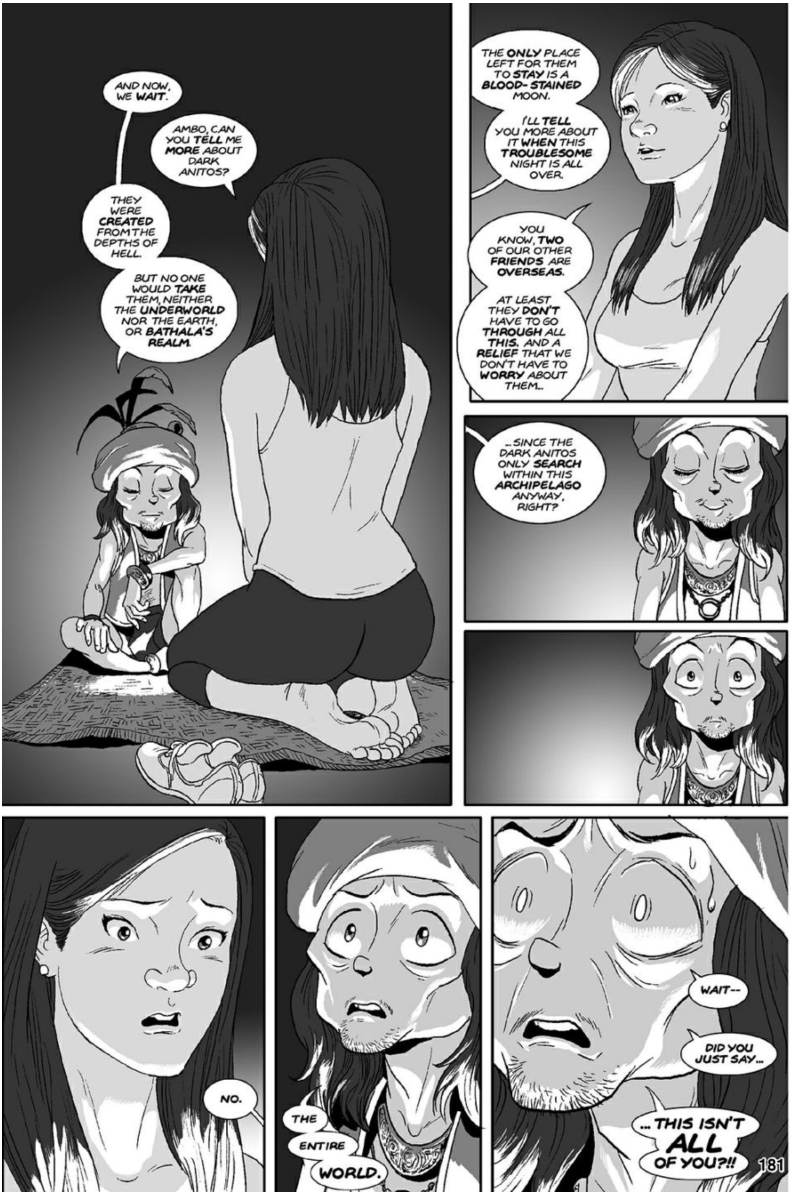

What other choice do we have?
FAREWELL, NEW YORK. IT'S BEEN FUN.
NEXT TIME I'M COMING HERE I WON'T HAVE TO STALK ANYONE.
I HOPE.
OH...
...SNOWING AGAIN.
YOUR GOODBYE TO ME?
THAT'S NICE.
"GOOD MORNING, TITA FELY!"
JUST STAY IN BED OKAY? I'M JUST GONNA BE DOWNSTAIRS PREPARING BREAKFAST.
AND GUESS WHAT--
I DIGITIZED YOUR RECIPE BOOK!
ISN'T THAT GREAT?
TIME TO MAKE YOUR FAMOUS PORRIDGE NOW.
6:09 AM
6:09 AM
1990 NYC Marathon

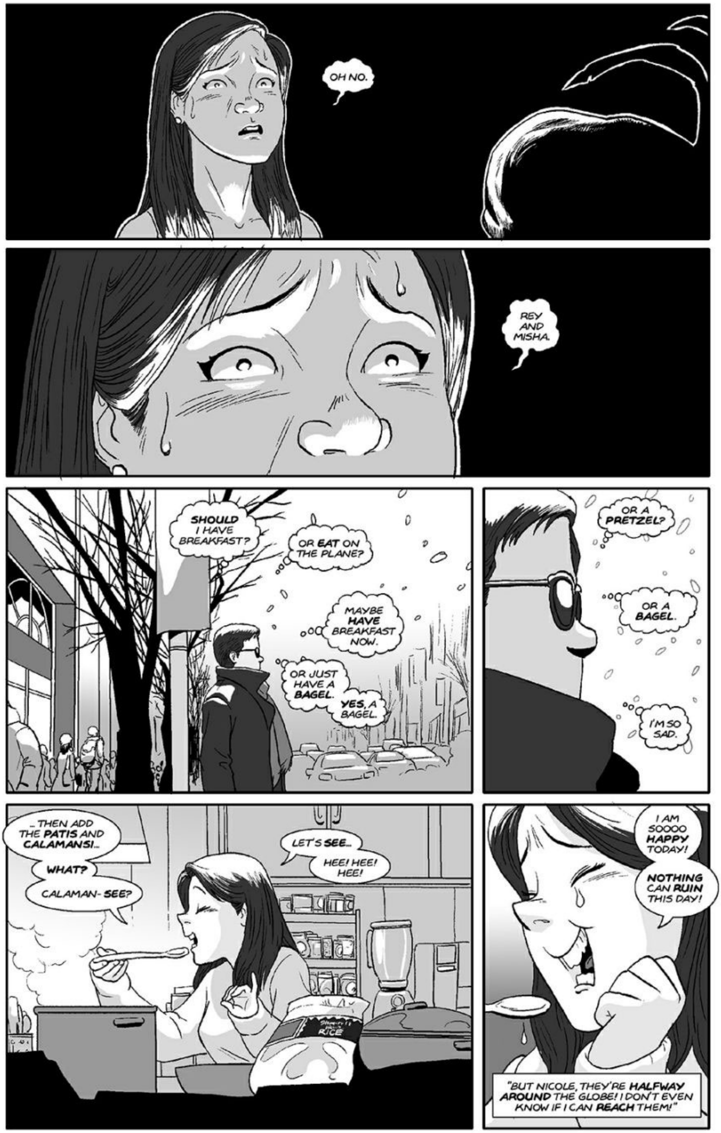

Taal Lake
6:09 PM
" M-MOM? I...I KNOW THE DARK ANITOS AREN'T **LOOKING** FOR ME..."
"...BUT I **STILL** WANT THAT CIRCLE OF PROTECTION."

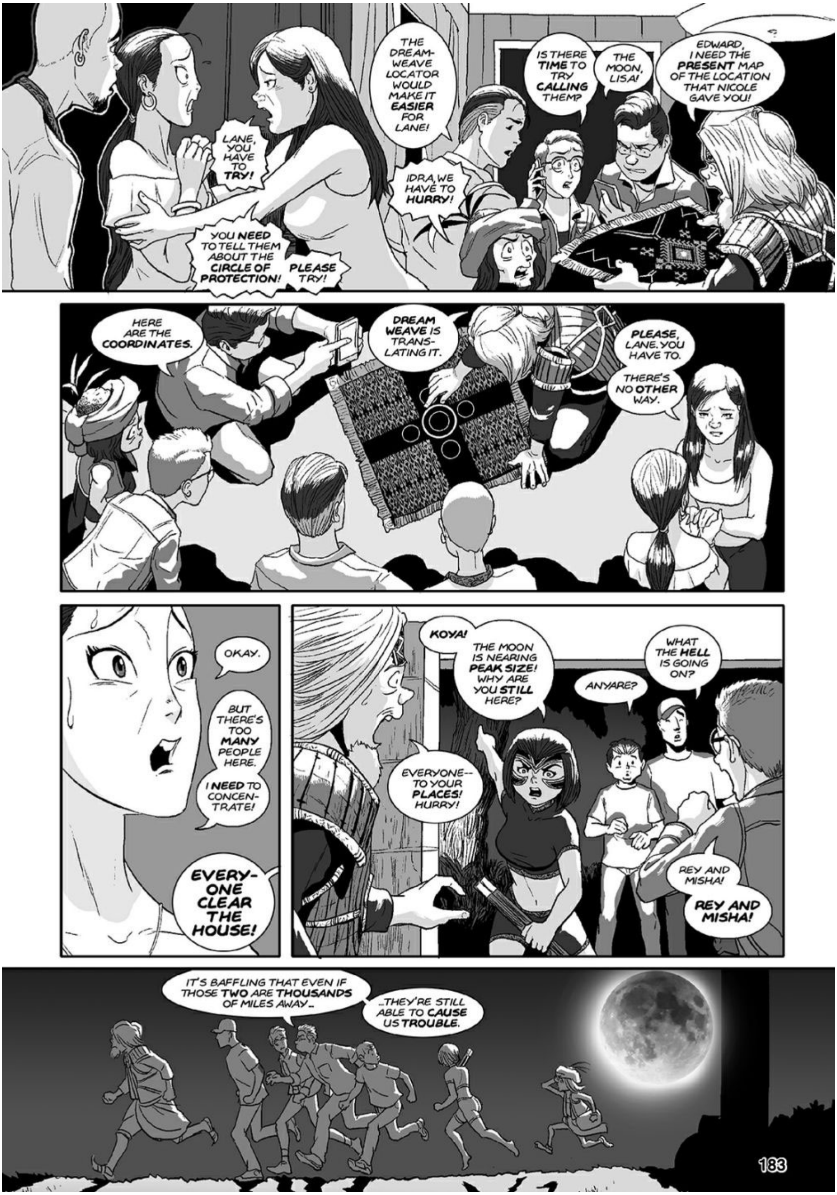

IT'S DONE, DON'T WORRY. JUST STAY HERE IN YOUR ROOM, OKAY?.
MOM?
YES, HONEY.
IT'S TRUE. ALL OF IT. THE STORIES YOU AND DAD TOLD ME. IT'S ALL REAL.
YES, THEY ARE.
NOW THAT I KNOW...
I'M ACTUALLY SCARED.
YOUR FATHER AND I WILL ALWAYS BE HERE FOR YOU.
WE WILL GET THROUGH THIS.
RIGHT MOM?
MOM?
WE WILL, MARILAG.
WE WILL.
"I PROMISE YOU THAT."
BOB! IT'S MY TURN, COME ON!
SALO!
NO DARK ANITO'S GONNA LAY A FINGER ON MY BIKE!

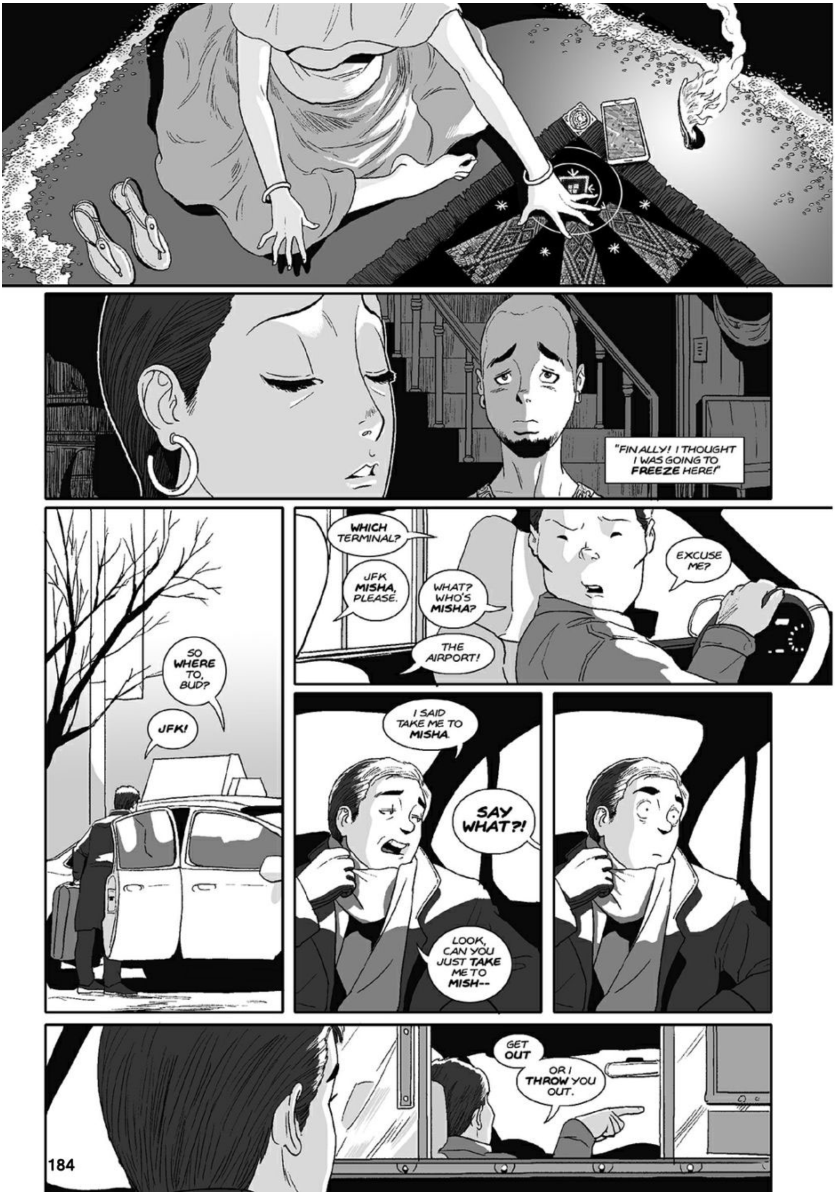

COME GET ME, M@#*!!!F*#!!!@S! I'M NOT AFRAID OF YOU!
SITUATION REPORT, IM-MA!
WHAT'S THE MOON'S STATUS?
THE MOON'S BEGUN 'THE MINOKAWA'S ASCENT'!
THIS IS GOING TO BE A BIG ONE!
EVERY-THING'S IN ORDER...
...AND EVERY-ONE'S IN THEIR PLACES, IDRA.
IDRA?
HM?
OH--
NOTHING...
IT'S JUST...
I FELT A COLD BREEZE.
BEEN WONDERING ABOUT SO MANY THINGS.
IF THIS IS IT FOR US-- THE KIND OF LIFE WE'LL HAVE TO LIVE...
WOULD IT EVEN MAKE SENSE TO RAISE A CHILD IN THIS KIND OF WORLD?
WELL, NICOLE AND KUBIN HAVE ANSWERED THAT FOR US.
AND IT'S NO SIMPLE THING.

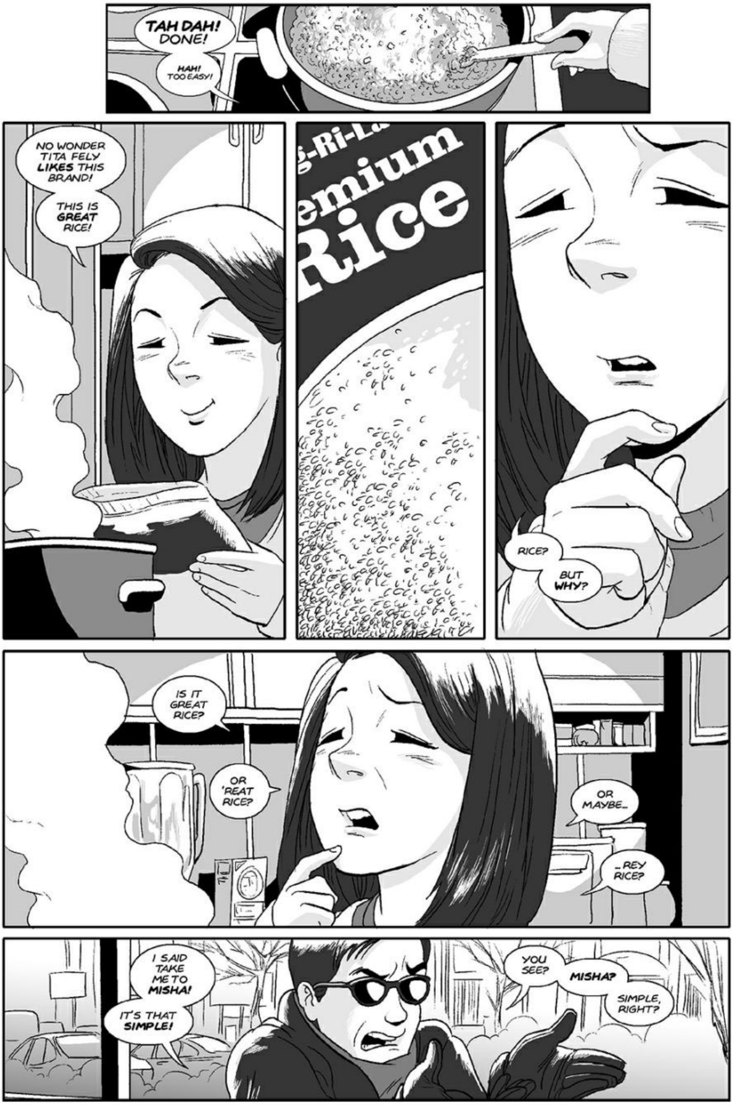

NO, I GUESS NOT.
NOTHING IS ANYMORE.
OYST! MAG HANDA NA RAW TAYO! MALAPIT NA!
WE'RE BOTH STAYING INSIDE.
BESIDES, I DUMPED A SACKFUL AROUND THIS.
I'M NOT STAYING OUT THERE WHEN THOSE THINGS ARRIVE! OKAY?
UHM.. GUYS? EXCUSE ME..
..BUT UH.. YOU HAVE SPACE FOR TWO LATER?
NICOLE.
HOW IS THE PRINCESS? POOR CHILD.
SHE'S FINALLY ASLEEP.
SHE'LL BE OKAY.
I'M PREPARING MY MOONWATCH COUNTER.
IT'S WORN OUT-- YOU WOULDN'T HAPPEN TO HAVE ONE, DO YOU?
I KNEW THERE WAS A REASON I KEPT THIS.
WE FOUND THIS DURING A DIG IN SIARGAO.
NO ONE BELIEVED ME IT'S A TIMER OF SOME SORT.
IT'S A NEWER KIND, THIRD AGE I BELIEVE.
THERE!
THE FLAMES EXTINGUISH ONE BY ONE AS THE MOON RISES HIGHER.
AND WHEN THE LAST ONE DISAPPEARS..
THAT'S THE MOON AT ITS LARGEST-- WHEN THE DARK ANITOS ARRIVE.
PRECISELY, NICOLE.

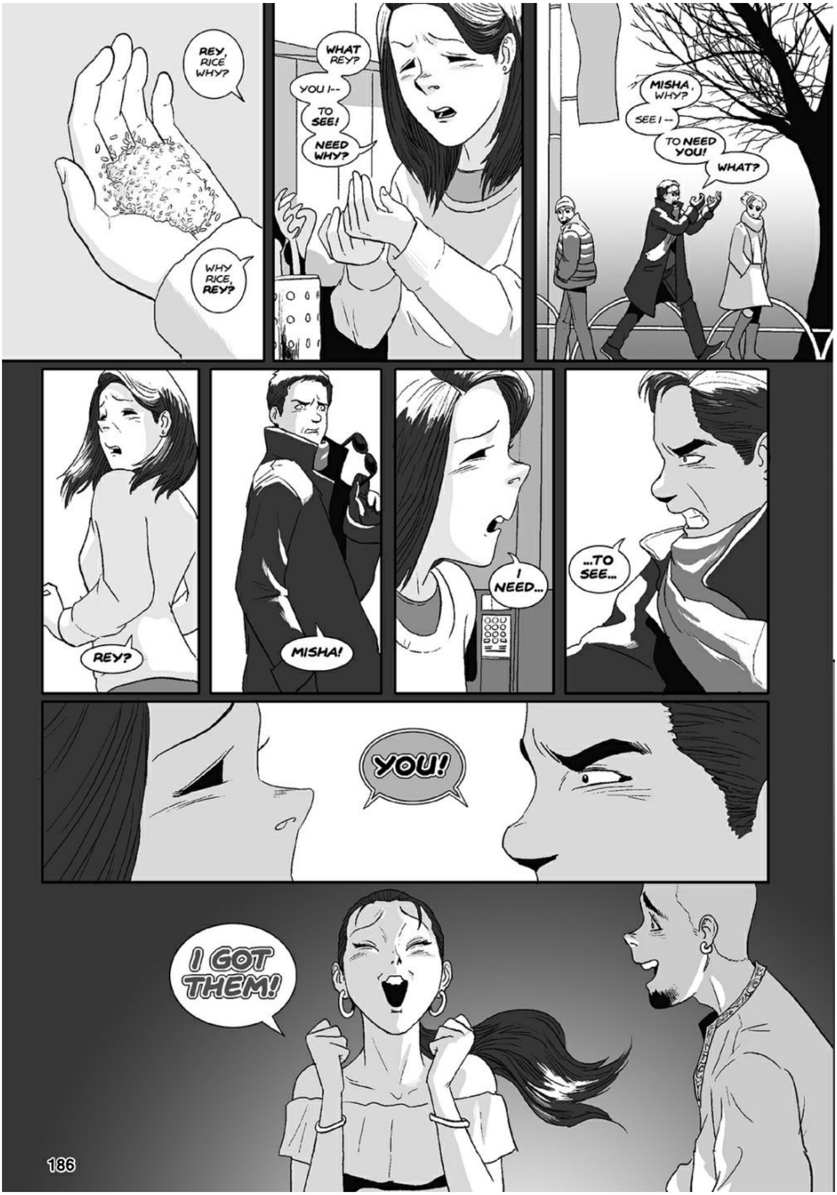

AND NOW, WE WAIT.
AMBO, CAN YOU TELL ME MORE ABOUT DARK ANITOS?
THEY WERE CREATED FROM THE DEPTHS OF HELL.
BUT NO ONE WOULD TAKE THEM, NEITHER THE UNDERWORLD NOR THE EARTH, OR BATHALA'S REALM.
THE ONLY PLACE LEFT FOR THEM TO STAY IS A BLOOD-STAINED MOON.
I'LL TELL YOU MORE ABOUT IT WHEN THIS TROUBLESOME NIGHT IS ALL OVER.
YOU KNOW, TWO OF OUR OTHER FRIENDS ARE OVERSEAS.
AT LEAST THEY DON'T HAVE TO GO THROUGH ALL THIS. AND A RELIEF THAT WE DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THEM...
...SINCE THE DARK ANITOS ONLY SEARCH WITHIN THIS ARCHIPELAGO ANYWAY, RIGHT?
NO.
THE
ENTIRE
WORLD.
WAIT--
DID YOU JUST SAY...
...THIS ISN'T ALL OF YOU?!!

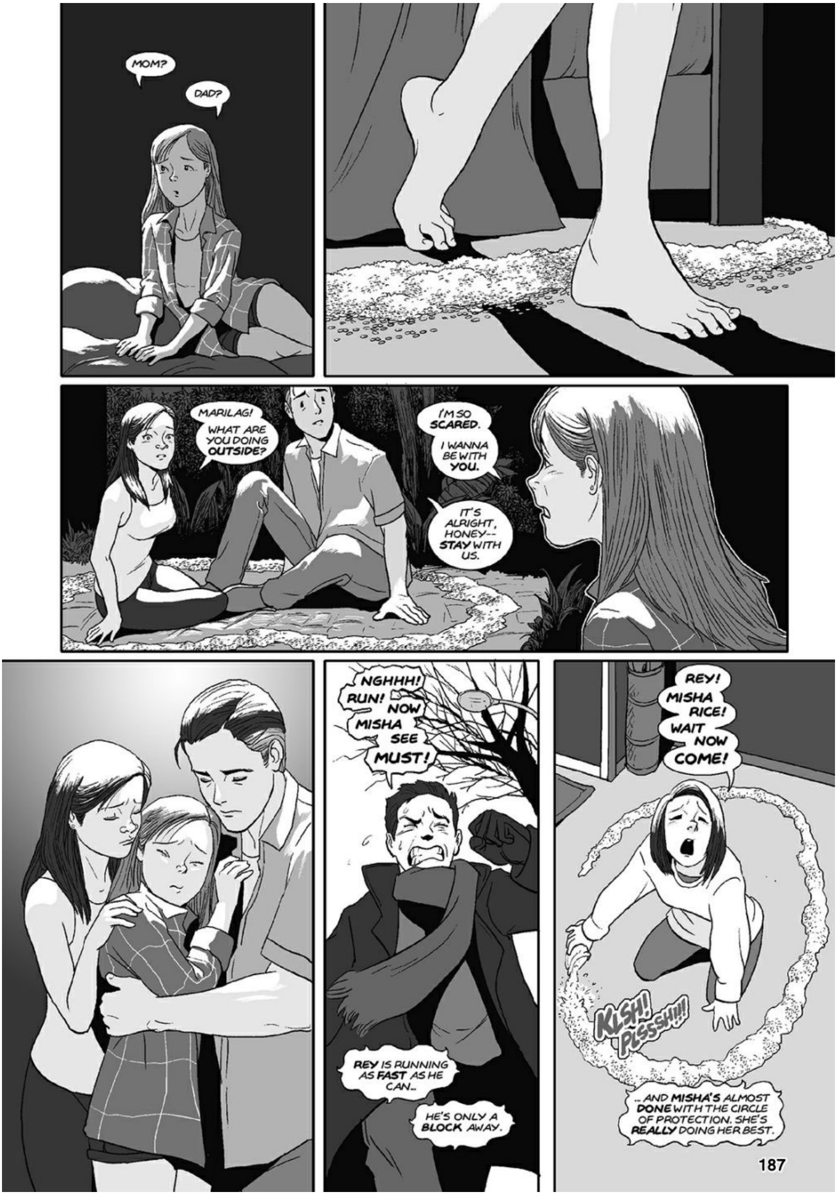

OH NO.
REY AND MISHA.
SHOULD I HAVE BREAKFAST?
OR EAT ON THE PLANE?
MAYBE HAVE BREAKFAST NOW.
OR JUST HAVE A BAGEL. YES, A BAGEL.
OR A PRETZEL?
OR A BAGEL.
I'M SO SAD.
...THEN ADD THE PATIS AND CALAMANSI...
WHAT?
CALAMAN-SEE?
LET'S SEE...
HEE! HEE! HEE!
RICE
I AM SOOOO HAPPY TODAY!
NOTHING CAN RUIN THIS DAY!
"BUT NICOLE, THEY'RE HALFWAY AROUND THE GLOBE! I DON'T EVEN KNOW IF I CAN REACH THEM!"

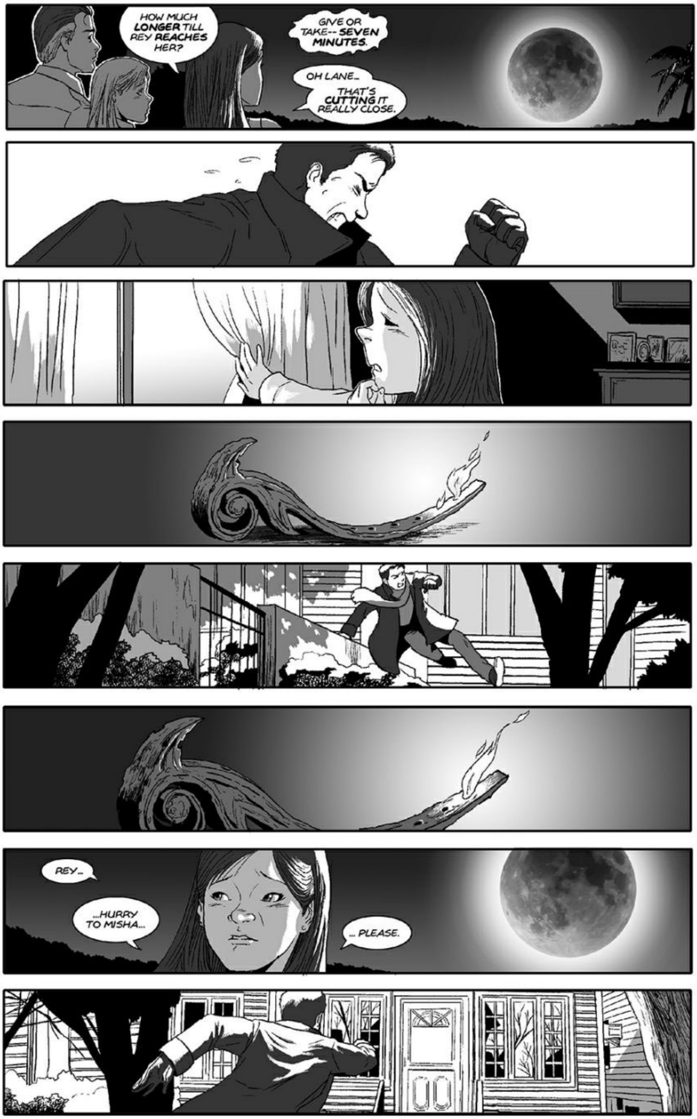

LANE, YOU HAVE TO TRY!
YOU NEED TO TELL THEM ABOUT THE CIRCLE OF PROTECTION!
PLEASE TRY!
THE DREAM-WEAVE LOCATOR WOULD MAKE IT EASIER FOR LANE!
IDRA, WE HAVE TO HURRY!
IS THERE TIME TO TRY CALLING THEM?
THE MOON, LISA!
EDWARD, I NEED THE PRESENT MAP OF THE LOCATION THAT NICOLE GAVE YOU!
HERE ARE THE COORDINATES.
DREAM WEAVE IS TRANSLATING IT.
PLEASE, LANE. YOU HAVE TO.
THERE'S NO OTHER WAY.
OKAY.
BUT THERE'S TOO MANY PEOPLE HERE.
I NEED TO CONCENTRATE!
EVERYONE CLEAR THE HOUSE!
KOYA!
THE MOON IS NEARING PEAK SIZE! WHY ARE YOU STILL HERE?
EVERYONE-- TO YOUR PLACES! HURRY!
ANYARE?
WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?
REY AND MISHA!
REY AND MISHA!
IT'S BAFFLING THAT EVEN IF THOSE TWO ARE THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY...
...THEY'RE STILL ABLE TO CAUSE US TROUBLE.

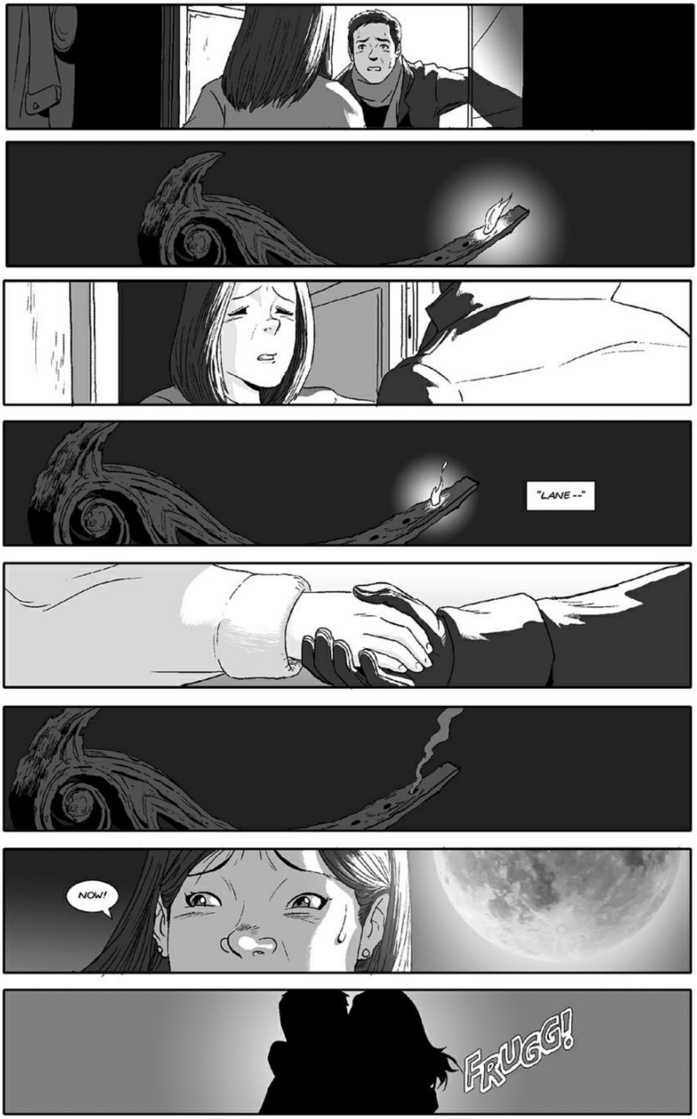

"FINALLY! I THOUGHT I WAS GOING TO **FREEZE** HERE!"
SO **WHERE** TO, BUD?
**JFK!**
**WHICH** TERMINAL?
JFK **MISHA**, PLEASE.
EXCUSE ME?
WHAT? WHO'S **MISHA?**
THE AIRPORT!
I SAID TAKE ME TO **MISHA**.
**SAY WHAT?!**
LOOK, CAN YOU JUST **TAKE** ME TO **MISH--**
GET **OUT**
OR I **THROW** YOU OUT.

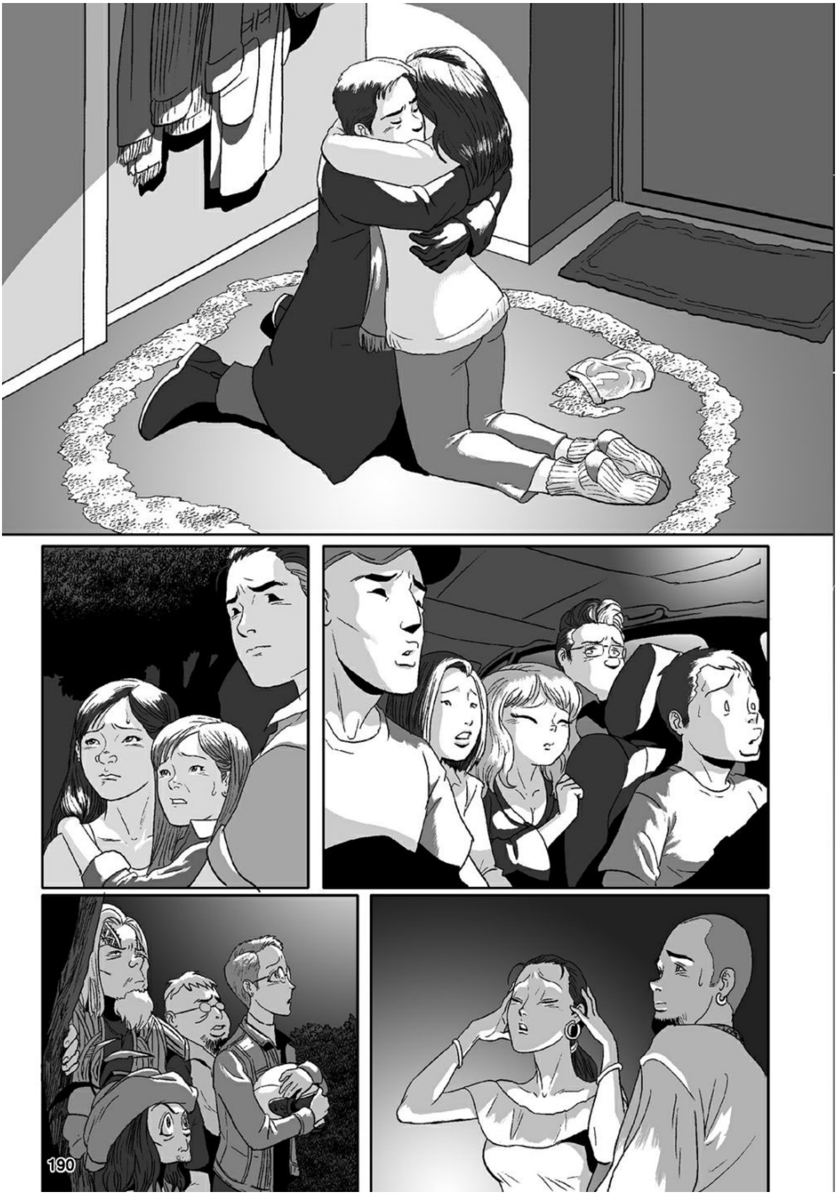

TAH DAH! DONE!
HAH! TOO EASY!
NO WONDER TITA FELY **LIKES** THIS BRAND!
THIS IS **GREAT** RICE!
g-Ri-La
emium
Rice
RICE?
BUT **WHY?**
IS IT GREAT RICE?
OR 'REAT RICE?
OR MAYBE...
...REY RICE?
I SAID TAKE ME TO **MISHA!**
IT'S THAT **SIMPLE!**
YOU SEE? **MISHA?**
SIMPLE, RIGHT?

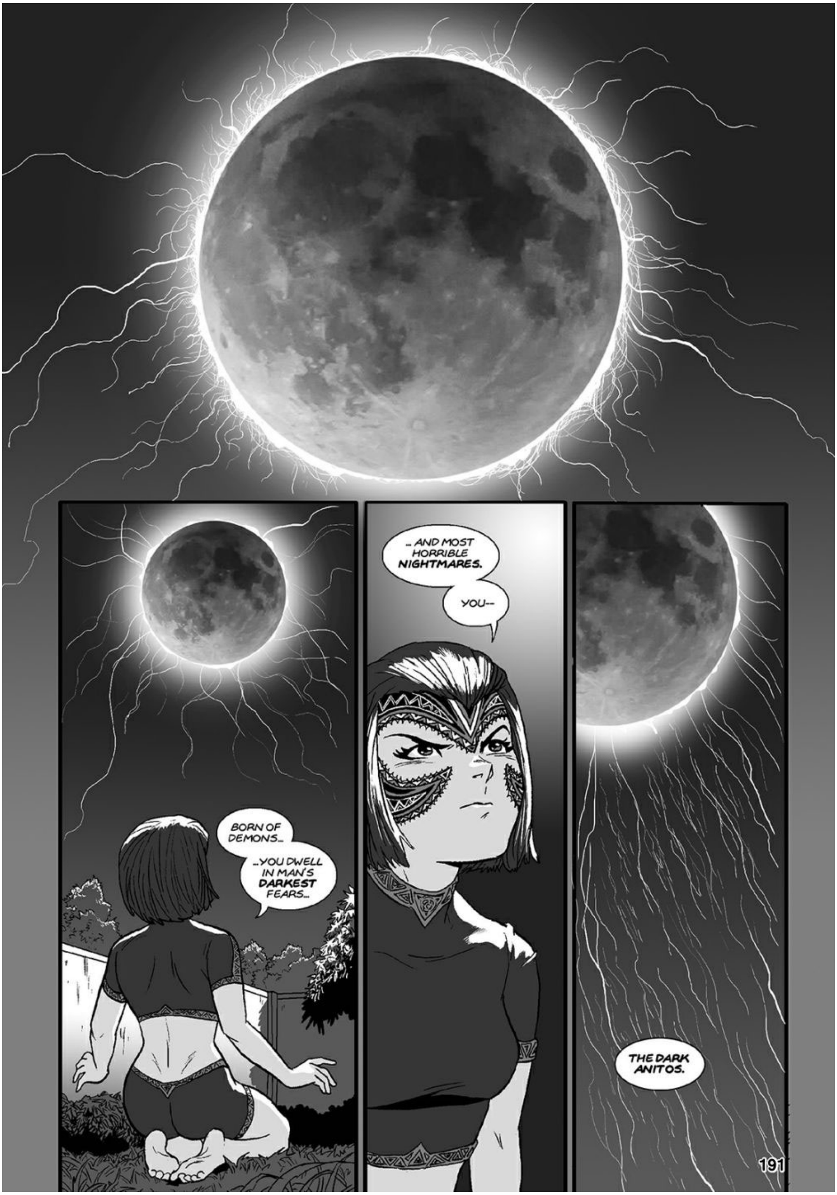

REY, RICE WHY?
WHY RICE, REY?
WHAT REY?
YOU I--
TO SEE!
NEED WHY?
MISHA, WHY?
SEE I --
TO NEED YOU!
WHAT?
REY?
MISHA!
I NEED...
...TO SEE...
YOU!
I GOT THEM!

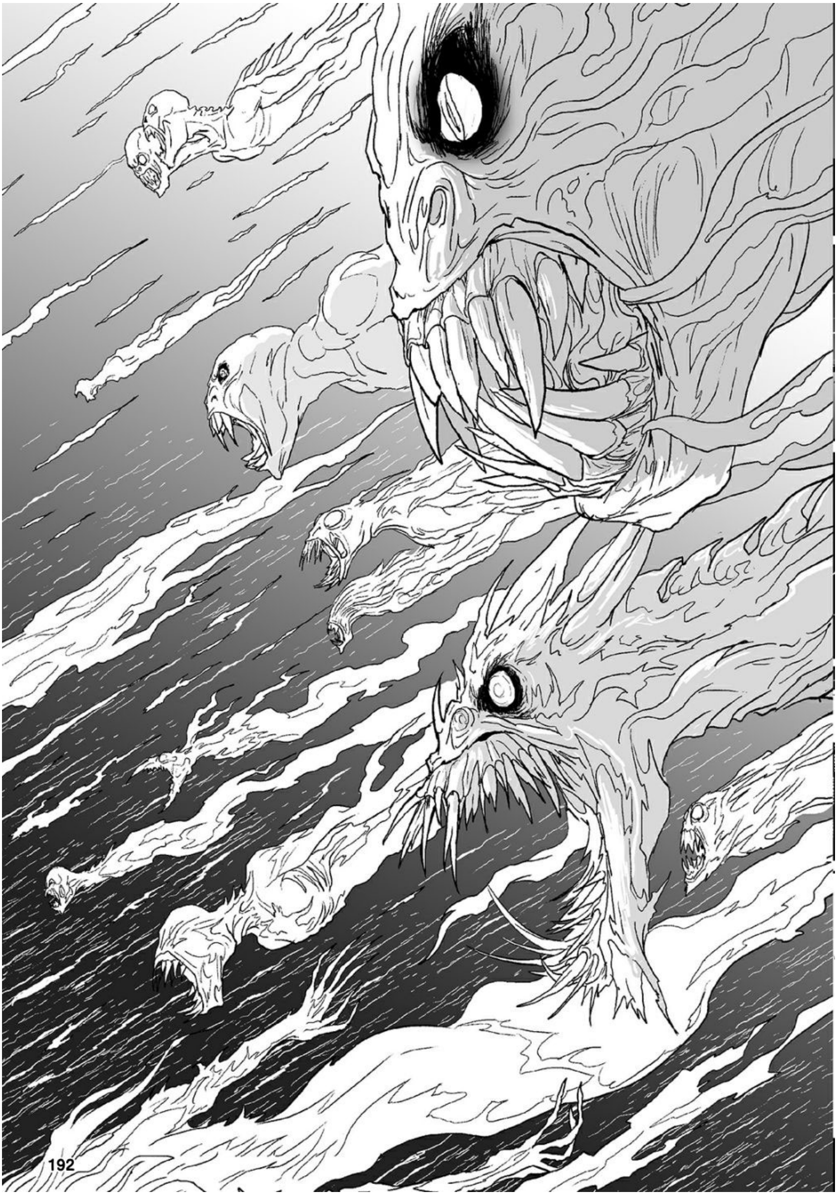

MOM?
DAD?
MARILAG! WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUTSIDE?
I'M SO SCARED.
I WANNA BE WITH YOU.
IT'S ALRIGHT, HONEY-- STAY WITH US.
NGHHH! RUN! NOW MISHA SEE MUST!
REY IS RUNNING AS FAST AS HE CAN..
HE'S ONLY A BLOCK AWAY.
REY! MISHA RICE! WAIT NOW COME!
KLSH! PLSSSH!!!
.. AND MISHA'S ALMOST DONE WITH THE CIRCLE OF PROTECTION. SHE'S REALLY DOING HER BEST.

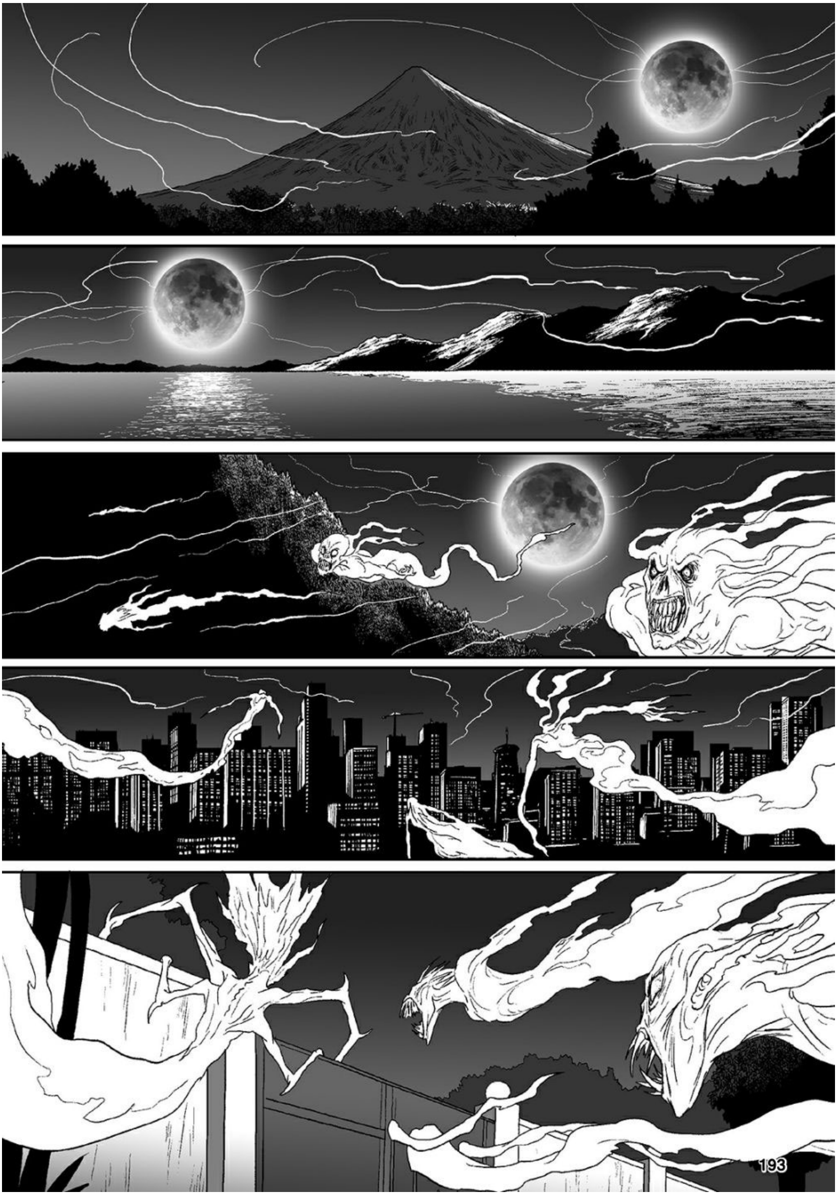

HOW MUCH LONGER TILL REY REACHES HER?
GIVE OR TAKE-- SEVEN MINUTES.
OH LANE... THAT'S CUTTING IT REALLY CLOSE.
REY...
...HURRY TO MISHA...
... PLEASE.

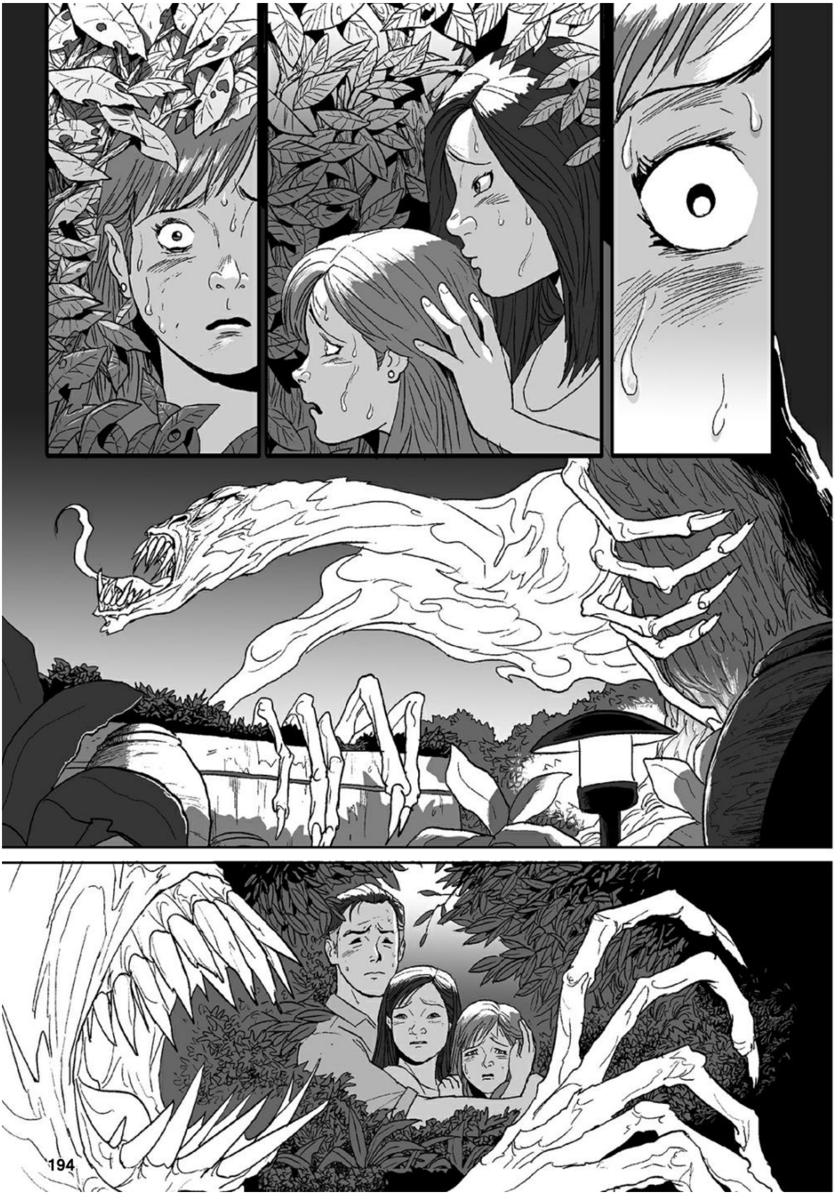

"LANE --"
NOW!
FRUGG!

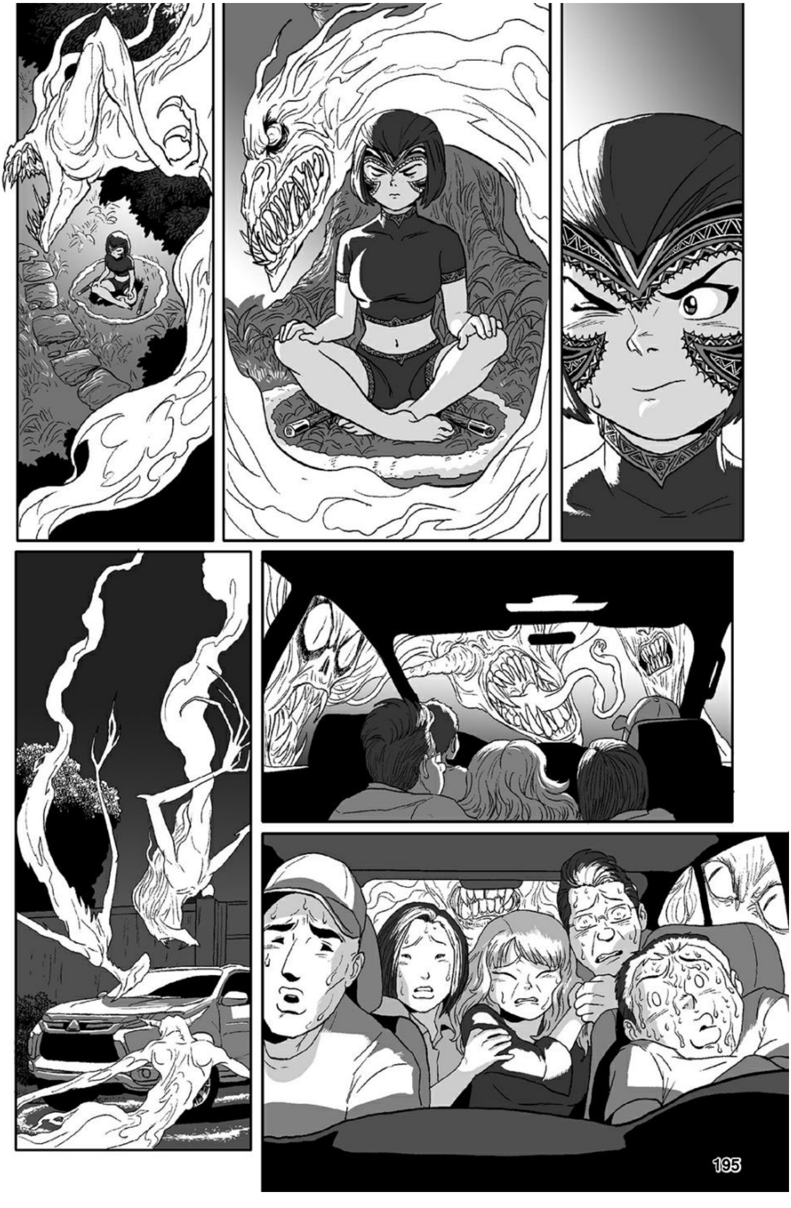


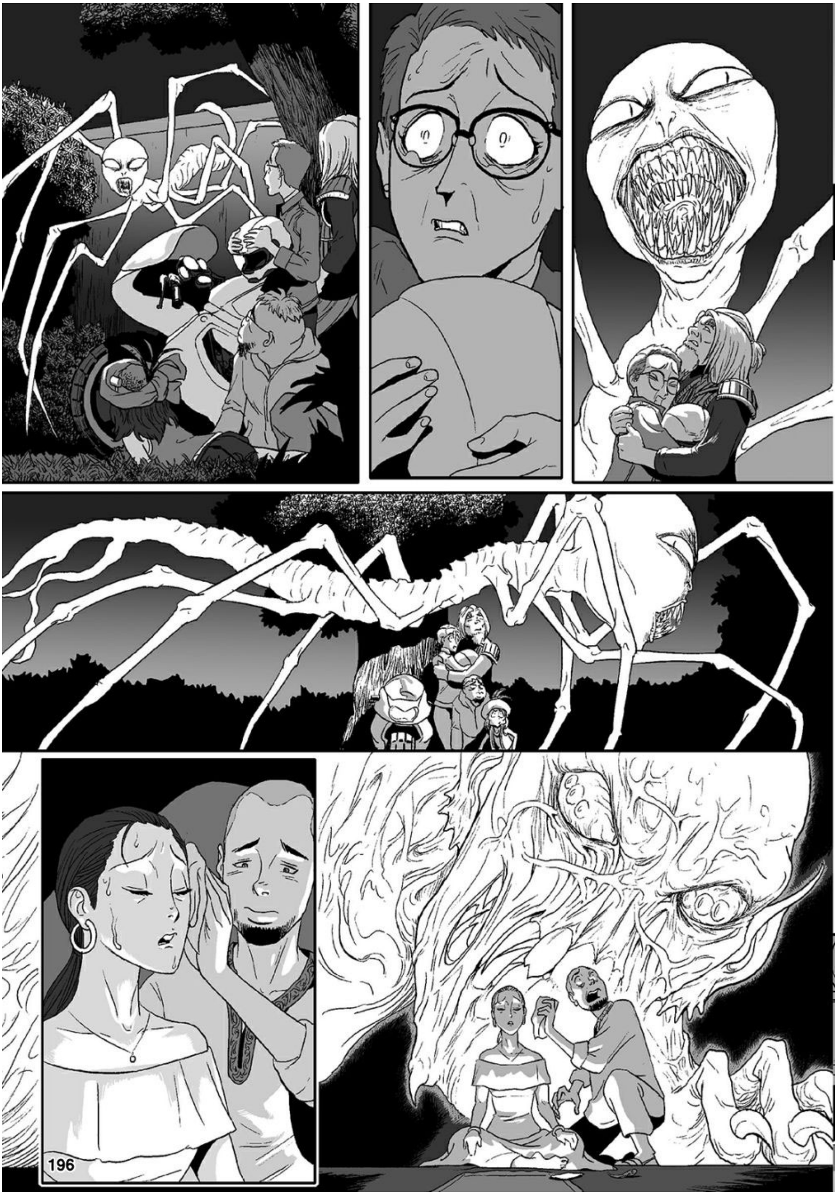

BORN OF DEMONS…
…YOU DWELL IN MAN'S **DARKEST** FEARS…
… AND MOST HORRIBLE **NIGHTMARES.**
YOU--
THE DARK ANITOS.

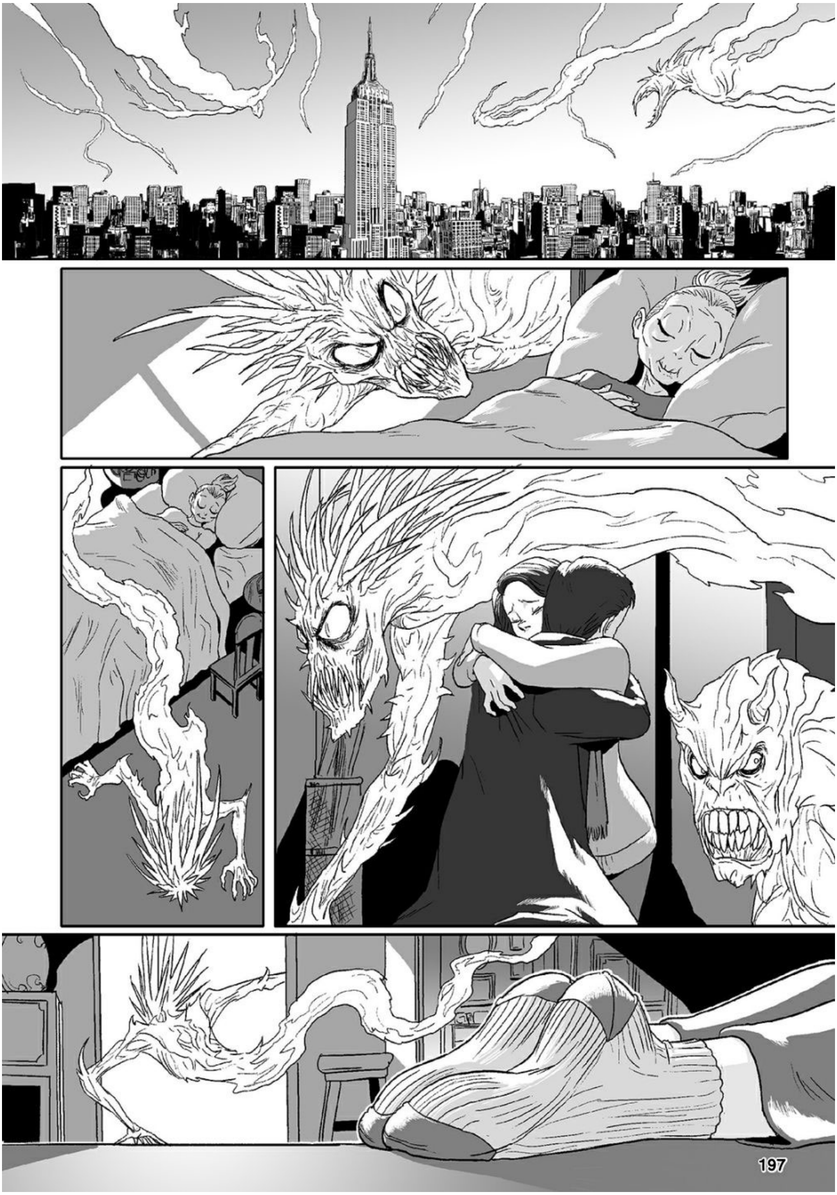


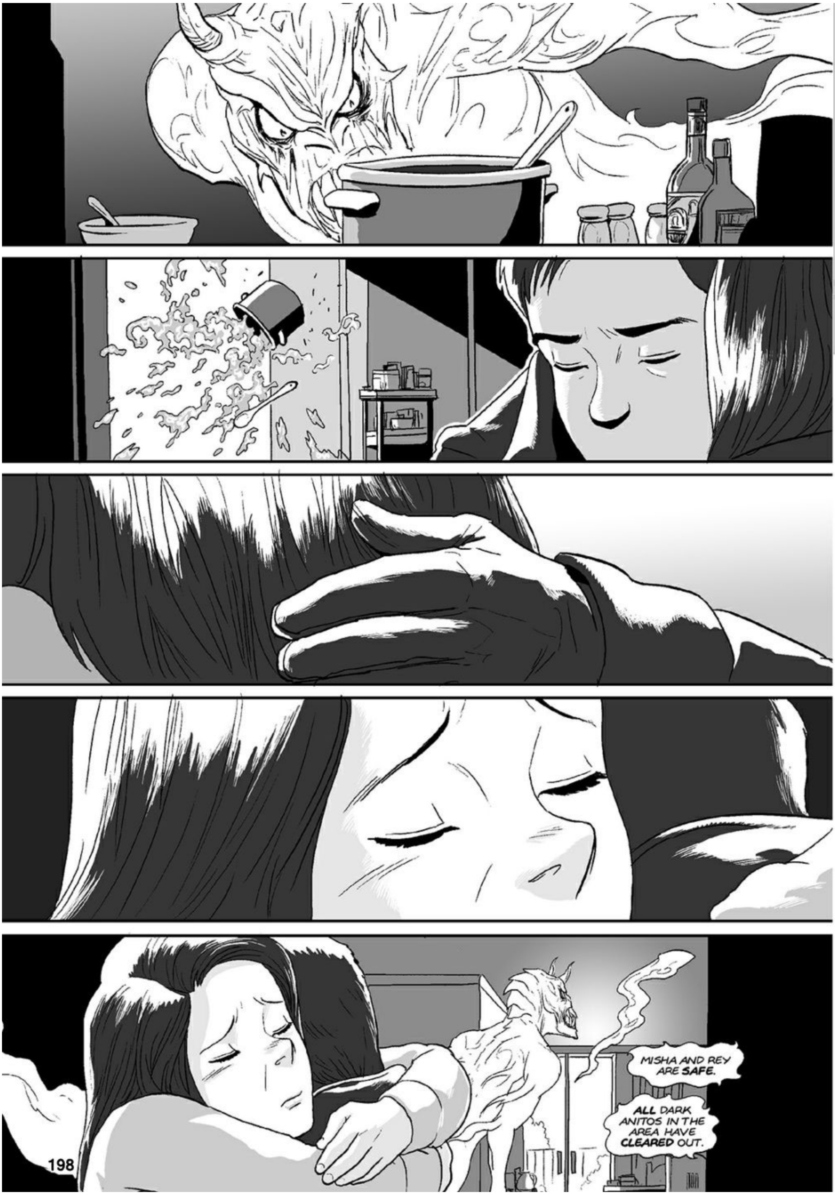


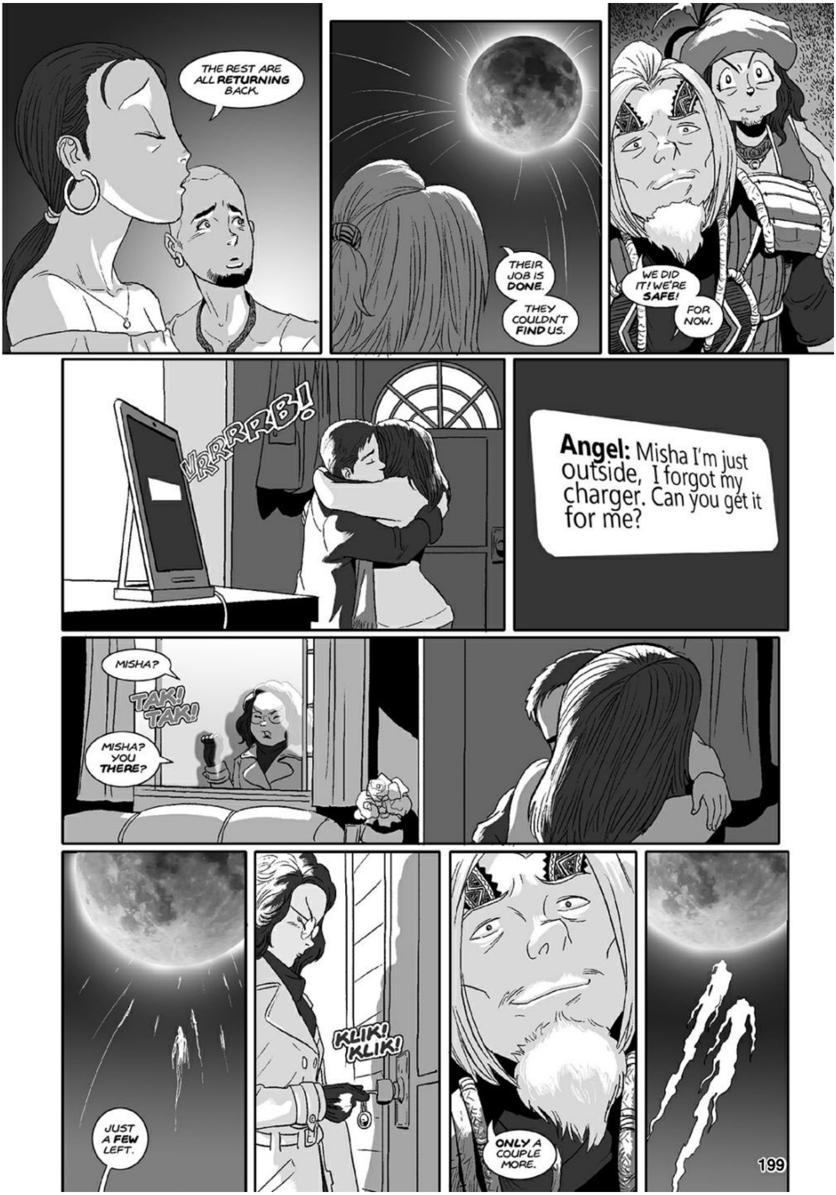


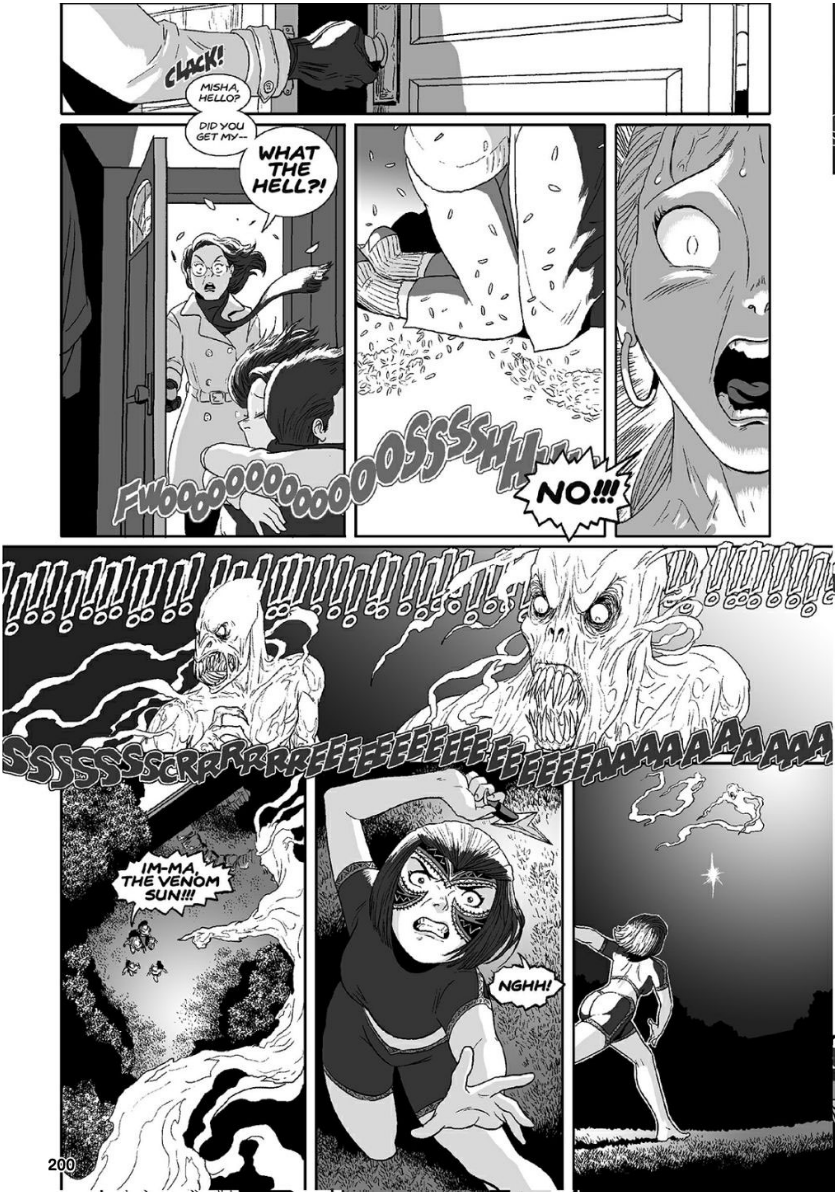


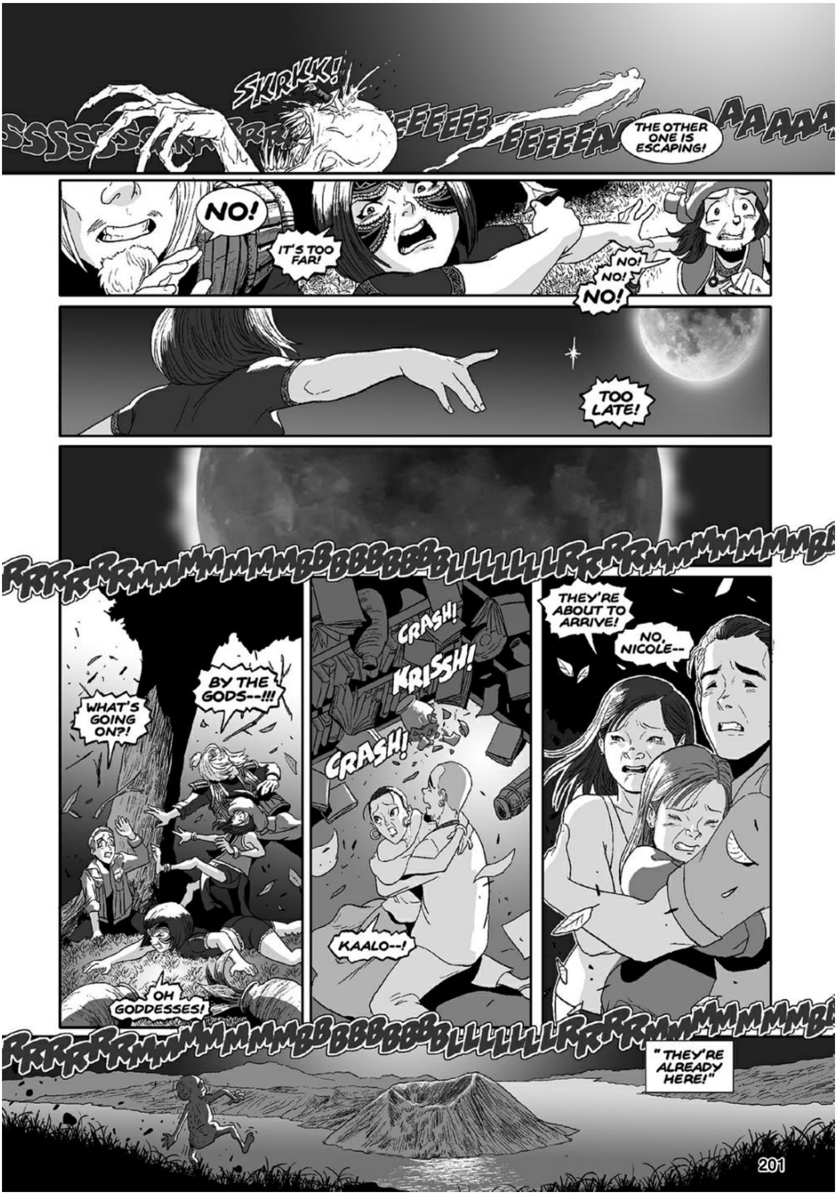


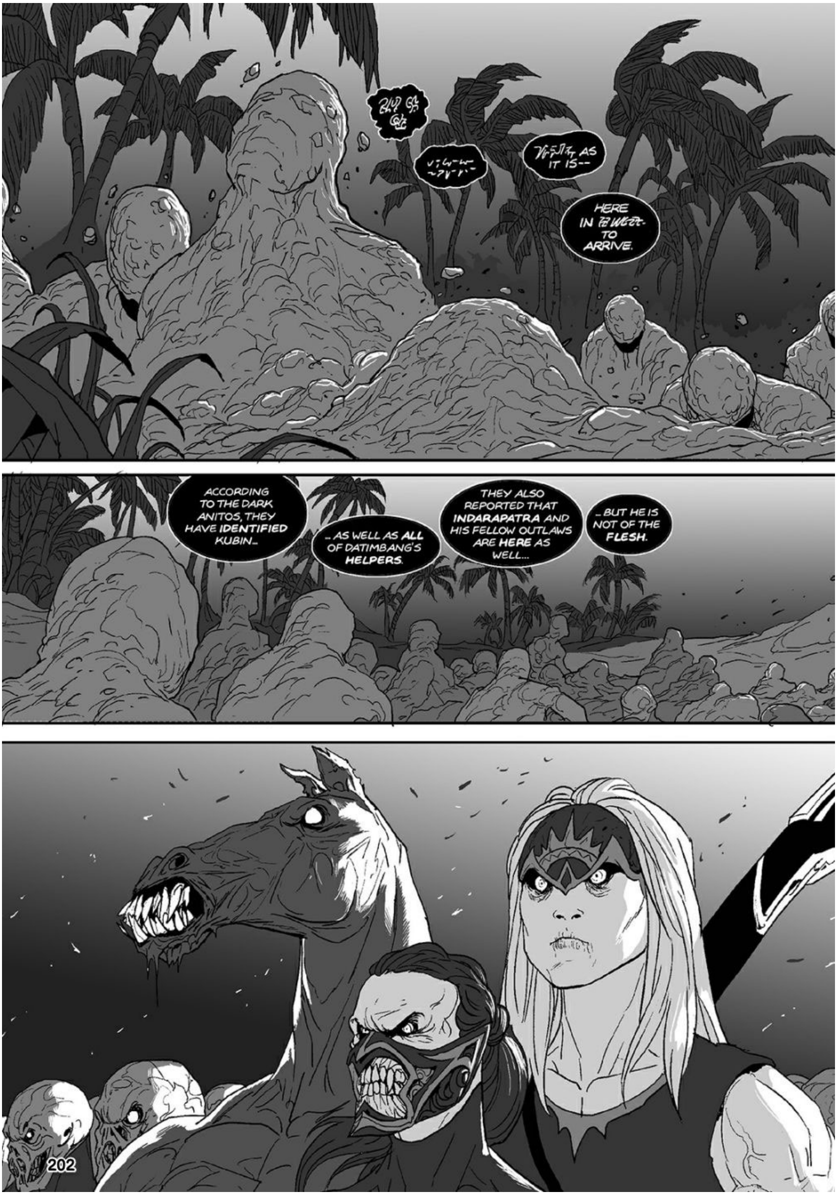


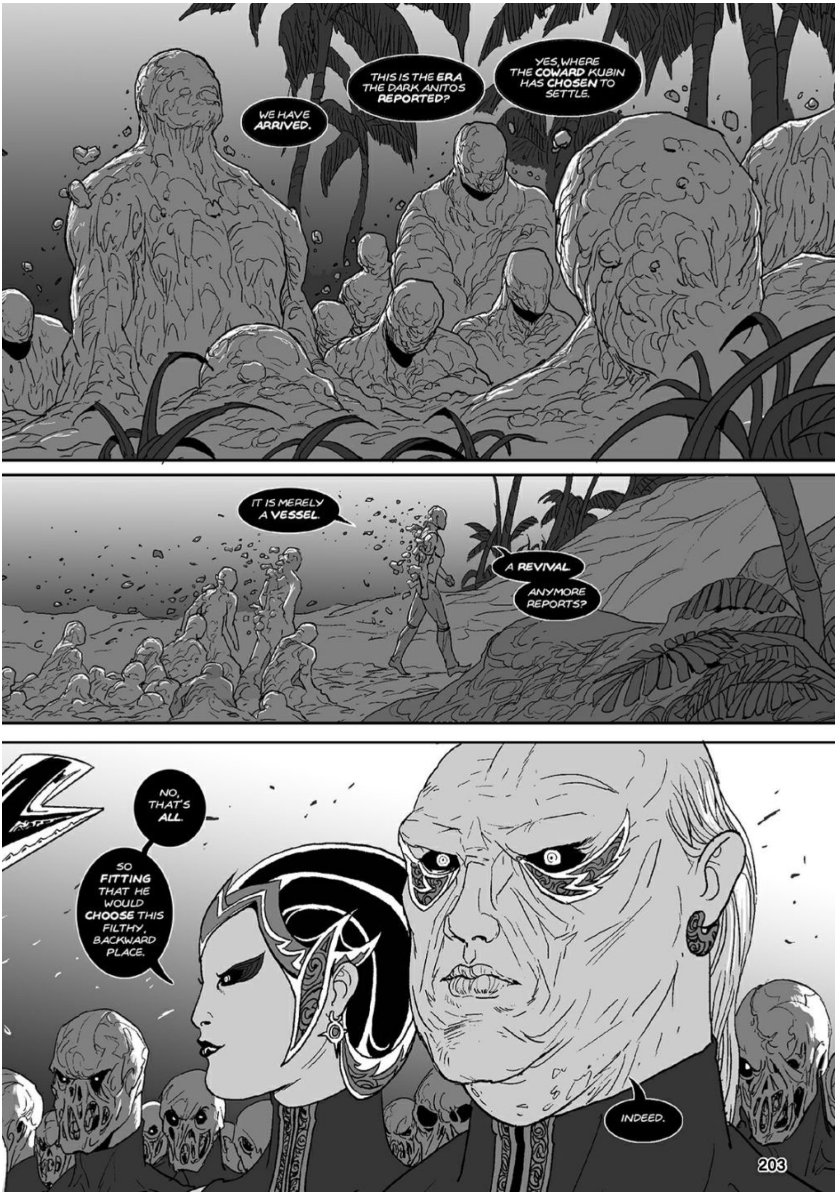

MISHA AND REY ARE **SAFE.**
**ALL** DARK ANITOS IN THE AREA HAVE **CLEARED** OUT.

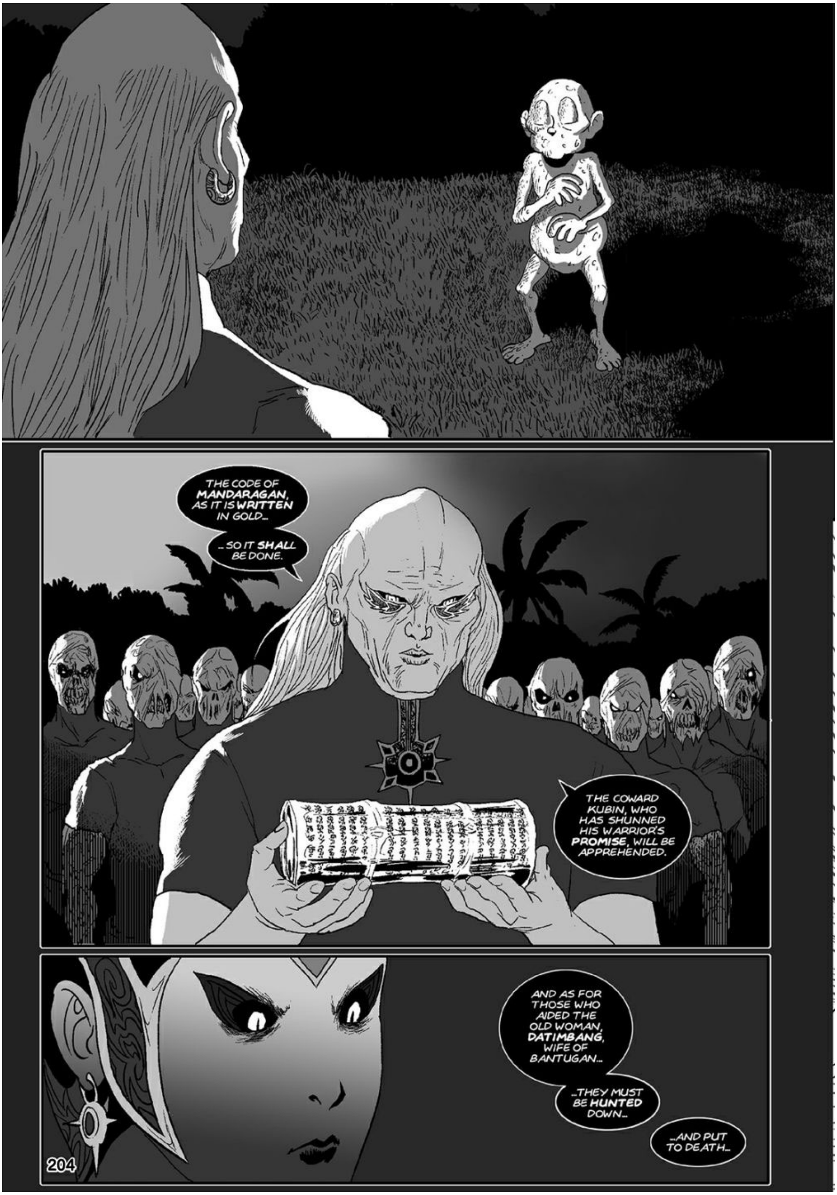

THE REST ARE ALL RETURNING BACK.
THEIR JOB IS DONE.
THEY COULDN'T FIND US.
WE DID IT! WE'RE SAFE!
FOR NOW.
VRRRRRB!
Angel: Misha I'm just outside, I forgot my charger. Can you get it for me?
MISHA?
TAK! TAK!
MISHA? YOU THERE?
JUST A FEW LEFT.
KLIK! KLIK!
ONLY A COUPLE MORE.

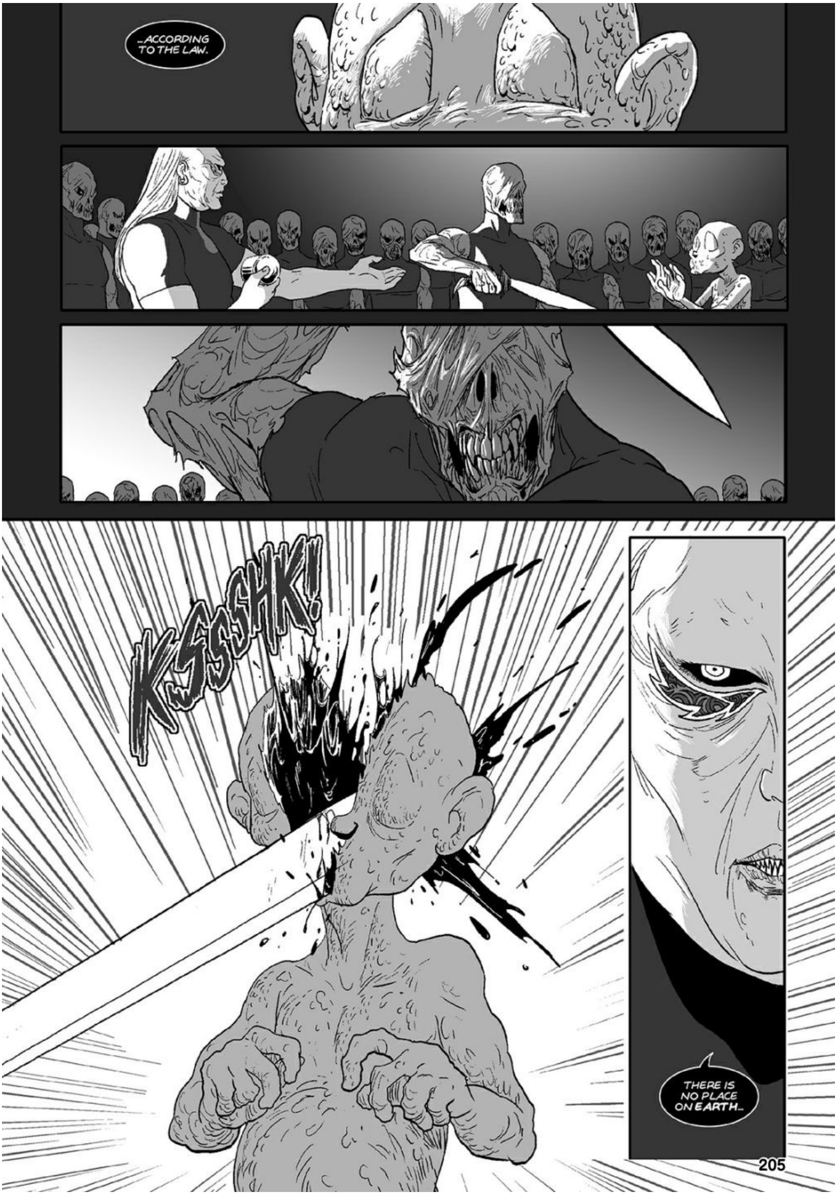

CLACK!
MISHA, HELLO?
DID YOU GET MY--
WHAT THE HELL?!
FWOOOOOOOOOOOOOOSSSSSHH...
NO!!!
!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
SSSSSSSCRRRRRRREEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEAAAAAAAAAAAAA
IM-MA, THE VENOM SUN!!!
NGHH!

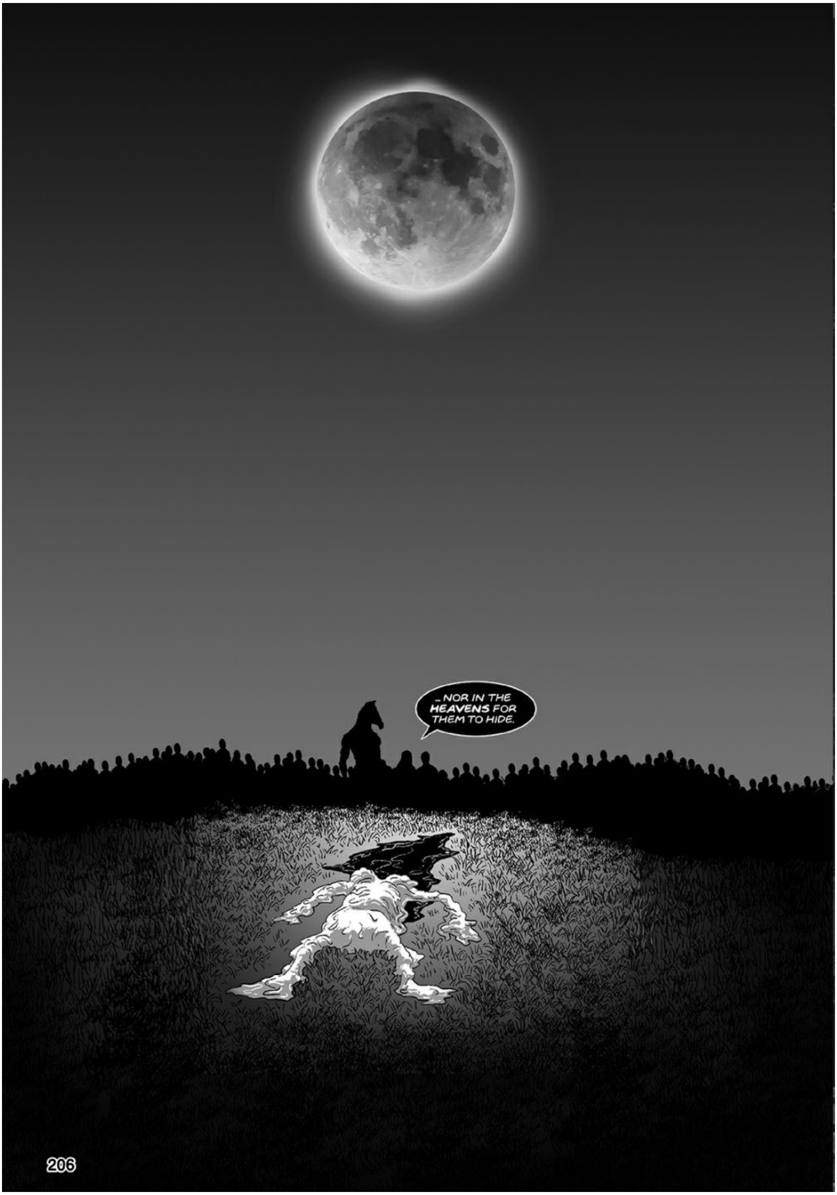

SKRKK!
SSSSSSSKRRRRR
EEEEEEE--EEEEEAAAAAAAA
THE OTHER ONE IS ESCAPING!
NO!
IT'S TOO FAR!
NO! NO! NO!
TOO LATE!
RRRRRMMMMMMMMMBBBBBBBBLLLLLLLRRRRMMMMMMMMMB
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
BY THE GODS--!!!
OH GODDESSES!
CRASH!
KRISSH!
CRASH!
KAALO--!
THEY'RE ABOUT TO ARRIVE!
NO, NICOLE--
RRRRRMMMMMMMMMBBBBBBBBLLLLLLLRRRRMMMMMMMMMB
"THEY'RE ALREADY HERE!"


AS IT IS--
HERE IN TO ARRIVE.
ACCORDING TO THE DARK ANITOS, THEY HAVE **IDENTIFIED** KUBIN...
... AS WELL AS **ALL** OF DATIMBANG'S **HELPERS**.
THEY ALSO REPORTED THAT **INDARAPATRA** AND HIS FELLOW OUTLAWS ARE **HERE** AS WELL...
... BUT HE IS NOT OF THE **FLESH**.


WE HAVE ARRIVED.
THIS IS THE ERA THE DARK ANITOS REPORTED?
YES, WHERE THE COWARD KUBIN HAS CHOSEN TO SETTLE.
IT IS MERELY A VESSEL.
A REVIVAL.
ANYMORE REPORTS?
NO, THAT'S ALL.
SO FITTING THAT HE WOULD CHOOSE THIS FILTHY, BACKWARD PLACE.
INDEED.


THE CODE OF **MANDARAGAN**, AS IT IS **WRITTEN** IN GOLD...
...SO IT **SHALL** BE DONE.
THE COWARD KUBIN, WHO HAS SHUNNED HIS WARRIOR'S **PROMISE**, WILL BE APPREHENDED.
AND AS FOR THOSE WHO AIDED THE OLD WOMAN, **DATIMBANG**, WIFE OF BANTUGAN...
...THEY MUST BE **HUNTED** DOWN...
...AND PUT TO DEATH...


...ACCORDING TO THE LAW.
KSSSHK!
THERE IS NO PLACE ON EARTH...


...NOR IN THE HEAVENS FOR THEM TO HIDE.

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HE CONTINUES TO REFINE HIS STORYTELLING SKILLS BOTH AS A GRAPHIC NOVELIST AND AS AN ANIMATOR, ALWAYS WITH THE INTENT TO SHARE AND PROMOTE THE BEAUTY OF FILIPINO CULTURE TO THE WORLD.

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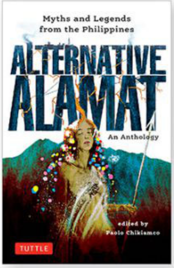
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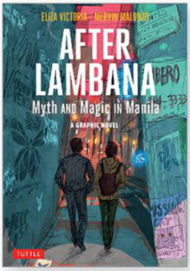
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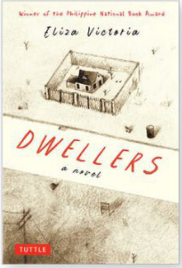
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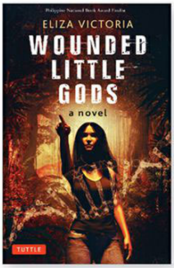
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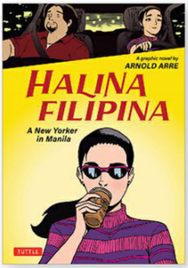
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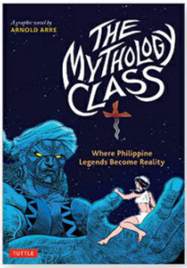
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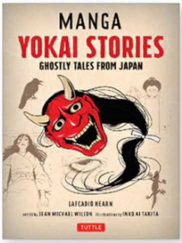
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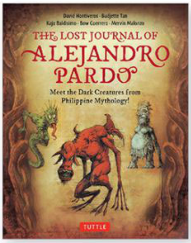
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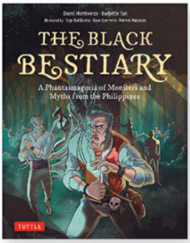
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Nicole, once of the heart of the group, now senses a dark spell settling over them—her young daughter included. As a wave of outsiders arrives from a magical realm, will these intrepid classmates be up to the challenge?

**ARNOLD ARRE** won the inaugural graphic novel Philippine National Book Award in 2000 for *The Mythology Class*. He is the author and illustrator of many other popular works also, including *Martial Law Babies*, *After Eden*, *The World of Andong Agimat*, *Trip to Tagaytay* and the *Children of Bathala* series.

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